THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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SOLI SORABJEE 9 MARCH 1930 • 30 APRIL 2021

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FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL SOLI SORABJEE PASSES AWAY

Distinguished jurist and ex-Attorney General Soli Sorabjee, who appeared in many historic cases like S R Bommai, passed away on Friday

WAS ADMITTED IN HOSPITAL FOR COVID

He was admitted to a private hospital in South Delhi after getting infected with Covid-19. He is survived by his wife, daughter and two sons. A recipient of the Padma Vibhushan, the second highest civilian award of India, the renowned human rights lawyer served as the Attorney General for India from 1989-90 and then from 1998-2004

APPEARED IN MANY HISTORIC CASES

- Born in a Parsi family in 1930, Sorabjee enrolled at the bar in 1953 and was designated senior advocate by the Bombay HC in 1971
- He appeared in many important cases including the Kesavananda Bharati matter on basic structure doctrine and the S R Bommai matter relating to invocation of President's rule in states

2000-2006

SORABJEE SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE U.N. WORLD COURT AT THE HAGUE FOR SIX YEARS

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

FIR on oxygen appeal to draw contempt: SC

Hearing must make a difference, says bench

KANU SARDA @ New Delhi

COMING down heavily on states that had ordered registration of FIRs against individuals appealing for help or sharing grievances on social media or elsewhere during the ongoing Covid pandemic, the Supreme Court on Friday warned that any such action will be treated as contempt of court.

A three-judge bench comprising Justices D Y Chandrachud, L Nageswara Rao and S Ravindra Bhat said, "We will treat this as contempt of our court. Let us hear the voices of our citizens and not clamp down."

The bench was hearing a *suo motu* case on the national plan to manage the Covid surge. The Uttar Pradesh government had recently ordered civil and criminal action against those making false appeals over social media seeking help for Covid-19.

Regarding the situation in Delhi, where there is an acute paucity of oxygen and ICU beds, the bench urged the Centre to expedite plans to save lives. It also asked the AAP government to adopt a cooperative attitude and a spirit of dialogue with the Centre. The bench posed 10 questions to the Centre, adding: "Our hearing must make a difference." A detailed order will be available on Saturday. The next hearing is slated for May 10.

The judges questioned the national vaccination programme with Justice Bhat asking Solicitor General Tushar Mehta why the Centre cannot buy 100% of the requirement. Sharing concern over the possible exclusion of the marginalised communities from the drive, the court said, "Fifty-nine crore Indians in 18-45 age group constitute a large segment. How will the poor and marginalised people find money to get vaccinated? We cannot have this private sector model."

Turning to the procurement policy, the bench said the jabs the states have to procure are overpriced. "AstraZeneca is providing vaccines at a far lower price to the US. Then why should we be paying so much? Manufacturers are charging you ₹150 but ₹300 or ₹400 to states. Why should we as a nation pay this? The price difference becomes ₹30-40,000 crore," Justice Ravindra Bhat asked. P9

10 POINT POSER

- Mechanism to show real time data on oxygen allocation to hospitals doable?
- Restrictions to curb spread of Covid; measures to ensure tankers and cylinders reach destination?
- How to enable vax registration for illiterates or those without internet access?
- Will one state get priority access over another to get jabs? How will manufacturers ensure equity?
- Has Centre considered invoking Section 92 of the Patents Act to grant compulsory licences in the face of an emergency like this?
- New variant isn't getting detected in RT-PCR test. Medical centres are driving away patients without positive report or charging high sums. What's the policy in place?
- How have testing labs been directed to track second mutant variant? How is reasonable time frame met for reports?
- What steps to regulate very high hospital bills?
- What about shortage of med staff? How are docs safeguarded and treated for Covid?
- How much oxygen will be made available to critical states?

Govt's special role to help Delhi

Delhi represents people from the entire country, the bench said. "Centre has a peculiar role. Forget if someone wasn't able to lift oxygen; you (Centre) have to push through to protect lives."

A Covid-19 patient awaits admission for treatment at Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital in Ajmer, Rajasthan, on Friday | PTI

NATIONWIDE	APRIL 29	APRIL 30
Fresh cases	3,79,257	3,86,452
Recoveries	2,69,507	2,97,540
Deaths	3,645	3,498

JAB-O-METER TAKE YOUR SHOT

April 29 **20,84,931 doses**

April 30 **26,08,948 doses**

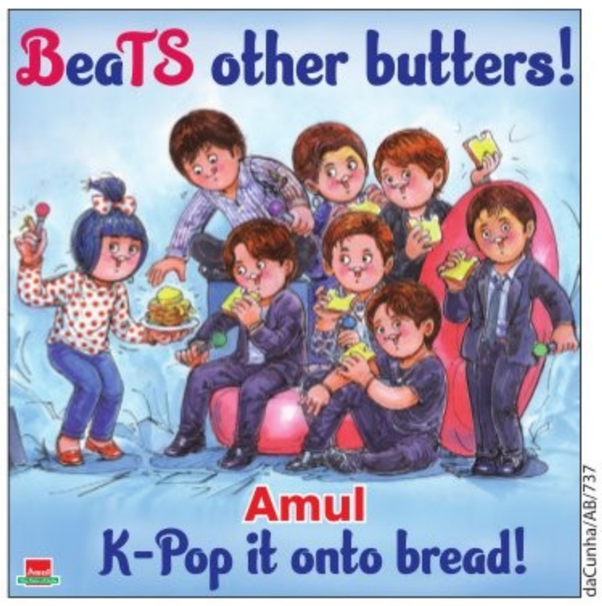
TOTAL DOSES: 15,48,54,096

OUR IPL SPACE

A government school in Edamuri, Pathanamthitta (Kerala) is taking up veg cultivation to feed nearby villagers. The headmaster, teachers & staff have been cultivating vegetables in the one acre free land in the campus | P13

INDIA TO GET 5 MN DOSES OF SPUTNIK BY JUNE

India will get 5 mn doses of Russian Covid vaccine Sputnik V by June, India's ambassador to Russia Bala Venkatesh Varma said on Friday. "We expect 1.5-2 lakh readymade vaccines to be available in the early part of May. This will be increased by the middle and the latter part of May. It is likely that by May, total sputnik V doses will be probably more than 3 million," he said



daCunha/AB/737

SEDITION LAW UNDER APEX COURT LENS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

AMID rising instances of state governments slapping charges of sedition against dissenting individuals, the Supreme Court on Friday sought response from the Centre on a plea challenging the Constitutional validity of the law.

A bench of Justices U U Lalit, Indira Banerjee and K M Joseph was hearing a plea challenging Section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, which penalises sedition.

The plea, filed by journalists Kishorechandra Wangkhemcha and Kanhaiya Lal Shukla — working in Manipur and Chhattisgarh, respectively — urged the top court to declare Section 124-A as unconstitutional.

The SC will give a detailed hearing in July. This comes months after a similar plea was dismissed by the court.

The petition claimed that section 124-A infringes the fundamental right of freedom of speech and expression, guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution.

Cases were registered against the journalist under Section 124A for comments and cartoons shared by them on Facebook.

There is frequent misuse, misapplication and abuse of Section 124-A since 1962, the petition said, adding that the abuse of a law, in itself, may not bear on the validity of the law but clearly points to the vagueness and uncertainty of the current law.

The petition also argued that the vagueness of Section 124-A exerts an unacceptable chilling effect on the democratic freedoms of individuals who cannot enjoy their legitimate democratic rights and freedoms for fear of life imprisonment.

B'luru tops 3 states in active cases

NIRAD MUDUR @ Bengaluru

FOR those wondering why the curfew restrictions need to be taken seriously — call it 'lockdown' if you want — consider this: On Friday, with Karnataka recording a maddening addition of 48,296 fresh Covid-19 cases to its tally, the total number of active cases in Bengaluru alone has crossed the individual figures of the entire states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. If it is any consolation, Kerala is the only other southern state whose active cases — currently under treatment — are more than Bengaluru's.

Bengaluru itself added a whopping 26,756 cases on Friday. While the number of active cases in Bengaluru stands at a massive 2,59,058, Andhra Pradesh has 1,22,980; Tamil Nadu, 1,15,128; and Telangana, 77,727 cases. The total number of active cases in the whole of Karnataka is 3,82,690, while Kerala's active cases add up to 3,03,732.

To understand how intensely the second wave is raging in Karnataka,

STATEWIDE	APRIL 29	APRIL 30
Fresh cases	35,024	48,296
Recoveries	14,142	14,884
Deaths	270	217

the highest single-day addition in the first wave was 10,974 on October 7, 2020, while Friday's addition of 48,296 is so far the highest day's addition.

According to health officials, the detection of cases has gone up because of the increased testing. But if one closely sees the number of tests conducted on October 7 last year, when the first wave's highest additions were recorded, and compare them with the number of tests reported in Friday health bulletin, it is clear that the cases are spiraling in the state not just because of increased testing, but because of a more intense spread of infection. P4

EXPRESS READ

Core sectors' output rises 6.8 pc in March

New Delhi: The output of eight core sectors grew by 6.8 per cent in March, the highest in 32 months, driven by base effect-led uptick in production of natural gas, steel, cement and electricity, official data showed on Friday.

Pope facilitates Vatican prosecution of cardinals

Rome: Pope Francis has sent another message to Vatican cardinals and bishops about his intent to hold them accountable for misconduct. A new law makes clear that Vatican prosecutors have jurisdiction over Holy See cardinals and need only the Pope's consent to investigate. P11

18+: Don't storm the hospitals, no vax supply yet

ANUSHA RAVI @ Bengaluru

IF you are in the 18-44-year age group and have registered on the CoWIN portal to get vaccinated in Karnataka, you will have to wait for some more time.

A day after *TNIE* reported that the fourth phase of the Covid-19 inoculation drive may begin only by mid-May, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa and Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar said vaccine supplies have not reached Karnataka and hence, the rollout cannot happen from May 1.

CONTINUED ON: P4

Drones to sanitise parts of Bengaluru, deliver medicines

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

IN what is being touted as a first-of-its kind initiative in the country, CM B S Yediyurappa on Friday launched a drone-based sanitation initiative for Bengaluru.

The exercise, taken up by Bengaluru Central MP P C Mohan, and his special task force that was formed two weeks ago to tackle Covid-19 in his constituency, in partnership with drone startup Garuda Aerospace, will ensure sanitisation of the Lok Sabha segment over the next 10 days with the help of drones.

CONTINUED ON: P4

Non-food bank loans hit an all-time low of 4.9 pc in FY2020-21

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad

NON-food bank credit growth plunged to an all-time low of 4.9% in FY21, according to RBI data. This is the first time growth touched such a low since 1971 when RBI began publishing data separately for food and non-food credit. Non-food credit includes loans given to industries, services sector, retail loans and agriculture and allied activities. This, along with food credit and priority sector loans, defines overall bank credit. Decline in non-food credit is critical as it accounts for 88% of overall bank credit.

According to RBI's deployment of gross bank credit by major sectors released on Friday, industrial credit growth fell to 0.4% in FY21 from 0.7% in FY20. But within this, large industries saw a decline of 0.8%. A year ago, it stood at a relatively respectable 0.6%.

In contrast, medium industries saw a growth of 28.8%, perhaps led by the government's credit-driven stimulus. But micro and small industries saw growth go from 1.7% in FY20 to a 0.5% in FY21. Services sector including tourism, hotels and restaurants, too saw credit growth decline from 7.4% to a dismal 1.4% during the same period.

Several segments of non-food sectors, barring agriculture, medium industries and gold loans, saw credit growth decline over the previous fiscal. This includes retail loans such as housing, consumer durables and education loans.

Gross bank credit at ₹97 lakh crore excluding priority sector loans plunged to 5% -- perhaps hitting an all-time low. Including priority sector loans to agriculture and industries, overall bank credit growth in FY21 stood at ₹109.5 lakh crore, or a growth of 5.6% — the lowest in 58 years.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
Saturday : 01/05/2021 • Year: Plava • Ayana: Uttharayana
Ritu: Vasantha • Masa: Chaitra • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Panchami 10.04 pm
Nakshatra: Moola 3.20 pm • Moon in Makara Rashi • Rahukaala: 09:00 am to 10:30am
Gulikakala: 06:00 am to 07:30 am • Yamaganda: 01:49 pm to 03:26 pm

WEATHER
MIN 25°C | MAX 37°C
FORECAST Sunny

Sunrise 6.16 am
Sunset 6.31 pm
Moonrise 10.18 pm
Moonset 9.18 am

02 BENGALURU SATURDAY 01.05.2021 newindianexpress.com

• 10 maternity hospitals converted into transit oxygen facilities • Citizen Help Desks are being opened at 50 major hospitals

Transit oxygen centres being set up: BBMP chief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

TO address the immediate need for oxygen supply in the City for Covid-19 patients, the government is creating transit oxygen facilities and centres, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner Gaurav Gupta said on Friday.

Speaking to the media on the sidelines of his visit to help desks, Covid Care Centres, Kidwai and Apollo hospitals, he said, the BBMP has converted 10 maternity hospitals into transit oxygen centres, which will help those in critical need. Doctors will confirm who require oxygen through triaging and the patients will be further recommended to hospitals for treatment, Gupta explained.

The list of hospitals include Rajajinagar Maternity Hospital, Kaveripura Maternity Hospital, Gavipuram Guttahalli Referral Maternity Hospital, Azad Nagar Maternity Hospital, Pobbathi Maternity Hospital, Magadi Road Maternity Hospital, Adugodi Maternity Hospital, Tavarekere Maternity Hospital, Hoskerehalli Referral Hospital, Shantinagar Maternity Hospital and Wilson Garden Maternity Hospital.

Palike officials said that if those in home isolation need oxygen, they can be shifted to these transit centres. Apart from this, the teams are also trying to work out how those in home isolation can be helped out with oxygen supply if the need arises.

Gupta said he interacted with the staff at the swab testing laboratory in Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, where they have automatic testing facility, and talks are on to increase testing and generating results. The Kidwai centre is now testing up to 6,000 samples every day and can test up to 20,000 samples, he said. Generation of BU number and SRFID won't be a problem as everything is automated, he added. He said various issues related to the delay in generation of BU numbers were also discussed.

Citizen Help Desks are being opened at 50 major hospitals for the benefit of the public and the first 25 have already been set up, he said. The 24X7 help desks will address the confusion and issues of patients and citizens.

Gupta added that 47 beds have been reserved for Covid-19 patients at Apollo Hospital. The meeting with the physicians discussed reserving beds on behalf of BBMP, whether or not there is oxygen scarcity, triaging among others things. He said he has instructed them to make sure no issues arises Also, Apollo has opened a step-down hospital in partnership with a hotel in Jayanagar.

MUCH IN DEMAND

Two men transport an oxygen cylinder in Chamarajpet on Friday. Oxygen cylinders have become a much sought-after commodity following a drastic shortage due to surge in Covid cases| ASHISHKRISHNA HP

Harsha is nodal officer for setting up ICU beds

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru:

FACING a deadly combination of rising Covid-19 cases and shortage of beds in private and government hospitals, the State government has decided to increase the number of ICU beds and other facilities. That is not all, they need to be set up quickly. Principal Secretary, Revenue department, N Manjunatha Prasad signed orders for the appointment of Dr P S Harsha, Commissioner for Information and Public Relations, as nodal officer for setting up 500 ICU beds on fast-track mode in each BBMP zone, with immediate effect.

With this order, BBMP and health department officials are optimistic that the rush and dependence on private hospitals will be reduced. "Once this facility is set up, we will no longer have to depend on private hospitals for help. We will also have the ability to take stern action against non-cooperating private hospitals under the Disaster Management Act," said a BBMP official.

Prasad also issued orders for the redistribution and management of hearse vans. Earlier, the vans were handled by control rooms, but now they will be managed by joint commissioners of each zone.

The government has also issued orders, granting permission for creating Covid Care Centres (CCCs) in apartment complexes, companies, NGOs and other places, with cases on the rise.

Work begins on cremation ground at Mavallipura

MEERA BHARDWAJ @Bengaluru

THE decision to convert the Mavallipura landfill for open cremation of Covid victims gained momentum on Friday, with work on construction of pyre platforms going on in full swing amid huge police presence. According to officials, it is expected to be readied by Saturday.

At present, the abandoned landfill at Mavallipura village in Shivakote gram panchayat in Bengaluru Rural is being readied for burning 50 bodies per day, and 18 platforms are being constructed for open cremations. BBMP officials said that with heavy rush and delays at the existing crematoriums, it has become necessary to create additional space and infrastructure to cremate Covid victims.

Even as BBMP justified its decision and invoked the Disaster Management Act in the wake of mounting criticism, Mavallipura residents are scared of contaminated PPE suits and ash being dumped at the site. They say given the past record of BBMP, they can neither trust the civic body nor believe their assurances on proper disposal of ash.

In a notification dated April 28, Chief Commissioner Gaurav Gupta stated that Covid incidents in Palike limits are increasing by the day, and "...under the Disaster Management Act (DMA), 2005 and Epidemic Diseases Act, it is ordered with immediate effect that the solid waste management landfill at Mavallipura will be used to cremate those who have died due to Covid-19. Further, if anyone comes in the way of, authorities can initiate action against them as per provisions of both the laws."

For the past few days, local residents of Mavallipura had been protesting against the decision. "Just 500 feet from the cremation platforms, vegetable crops are grown, and the smoke and ash from burning pyres will settle on the crops. Revenue Minister R Ashoka visited the place today but wouldn't talk to us. What about our safety? Nothing has been done to address our health issues or even provide safe drinking water," they said.

Over 1,000 trees to be chopped for Metro work

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru:

THE BBMP on Friday issued a notice stating that 1,026 trees need to be axed for Namma Metro Phase 2A on Outer Ring Road, along a stretch of 19.633km, from Central Silk Board to KR Puram and up to Baiyappanahalli Depot 13 elevated Metro station.

Soon after the notice was made public, citizens started voicing their comments against BBMP and BMRCL. Many started sending messages to officials from both departments, urging them to look at alternative solutions.

"This pandemic has made us citizens realise the importance of trees and oxygen, it is sad that government officials and departments have not yet understood it, chopping down 1026 trees! It is not a small number," said Vinod K, a citizen.

Many citizens are also preparing a petition to approach the High Court against the state government, BBMP and BMRCL.

A senior BBMP official, not wanting to be named, said: "We also don't want the trees to be cut. But we were forced to issue orders on the direction of the High Court. If we can, we will ask the tree committee to cancel the proposal. Though the trees marked are on medians, they are of different sizes and every tree is important."

DUAL POLICY?

Stop online firms from selling non-essentials now, demand traders

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

THE government's Corona Curfew regulations that allow only essential services to remain open and a free run for e-commerce companies are affecting the business of all traders, said businessmen from across the state. They demand a ban on the sale of non-essentials by e-commerce companies with immediate effect.

President of the Federation of

Karnataka Chamber of Commerce and Industry Perikal M Sundar said, "The dual policy of the State Government is causing heavy losses to traders across all industries in Karnataka." FKCCI has submitted a petition to Chief Secretary P Ravi Kumar and Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa demanding an immediate redressal of their issues.

Sajjan Raj Mehta, former president, Karnataka Hosiery and Garments Association, said, "It is wrong to permit customers to buy electronic items, appliances, mobiles and ready-made garments through Amazon, Flipkart and Snapdeal. While we are supporting the curfew, the government is handing over the entire business to them. We request a ban on online sales immediately."

Kishore Solanki, president, Karnataka Stainless Steel Traders and Industries Association, said, "From a market share of 17-18 per cent, the online business has zoomed to 30 per cent."

The sale of nonessentials was not allowed online last year during the lockdown, but why is it permitted now, he asked. Flipkart and Amazon are yet to respond to these queries.

Shortage of groceries next week: Wholesalers

Wholesale grocery dealers across the State warned that there will be a shortage of groceries next week as only a four-hour window is permitted for them.

Satish Nagaraj, president, Chitradurga District Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and also a peanut dealer, said that only 50 per cent of peanuts are being processed after the curfew came into force.

Ramesh Chandra Lahoti, president, Yesvantpur APMC yard, said, "We have only two hours to carry out trading in the morning. Many retailers too are not coming. They have stocks now, but the shortage will show up by May 4 or 5. Then prices will go up."

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

01st May: Yesterday I remarked how scientists now believe that ninety-six percent of the universe is a complete mystery and only four percent operates according to the known laws of physics. My friends who are astronomers are very excited about this because there is work to keep them busy for years, finding all those answers to their many new questions.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
This could be a turbulent day. Cash & career issues will disturb your weekend peace. A touch of competition will add spice to routine activities. Follow up new ideas. Don't let the fact that you're a little over-emotional blind you to just how much is going your way.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
A powerful planetary alignment makes for an exciting day. Try to strike a balance between promoting your interests and looking after friends' affairs. Don't give in to mindless aggression. For, as soon as you lose your temper you'll be begging for forgiveness!

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Dynamic planetary aspects can be turned to your advantage, so leave nothing to chance. If held up by opposition from colleagues, there may be ways in which you can turn the tables on them. In fact, I suspect that you'll be able to make up for the slights and insults of years!

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
There's a lot of tension in the air and family members and friends may be in a fighting mood. It's up to you to turn friction to everybody's advantage by suggesting positive alternatives. It's all to do with the Moon's challenging alignment, so it will pass very soon.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Stormy planetary influences could help clear the air. If you have to get something off your chest, make sure your feelings are pointed in the right direction. Else, you'll sound off at the wrong people and sow the seeds for problems some way down the line.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
There'll be plenty of scope for your diplomatic and healing powers today, largely because friends and colleagues will be falling out with each other. Relatives will seek your support, but don't get sucked into personal disputes.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Your peaceful mood will not square with combative circumstances. Other people will be putting you on the spot, challenging you to come up with the goods. Relations may be on your side, though they may not necessarily be any help. But - at least they'll listen!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
Energetic friends and associates rely on you for your steady qualities, but you're unlikely to be much use today. You'll be far too preoccupied with your own problems and ambitions to spare time for other people. But, then, they're too busy with their own ideas to worry!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
It's an energetic day. Nothing turns out as planned, but delays and sudden obstacles may be blessings in disguise if they divert you from a problematic and highly risky course of action. The time has come to reconsider your progress in all directions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
There has been an interesting tie-up recently between personal and public aspirations on the one hand and business prospects and social life, on the other. But there's no need to rush into final choices now is that circumstances are about to shift markedly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
There's plenty of scope to indulge your dramatic characteristics and qualities and, the more enterprising you are, the greater will be the prospects of success. Do not be disturbed if partners are in an angry mood - just let them get over it.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
The accent is on hard work and energetic activity. But if you achieve too much, too soon, you may risk a short-term loss or failure. Don't allow such a prospect to push you off course. And do plan ahead for next month - when your financial situation begins to pick up.

THE PHANTOM

HI AND LOIS

BEETLE BAILEY

COOKIE CALLED. HE WANTS YOU TO TASTE-TEST A FRESH BATCH OF COOKIES
WHEN HE FINDS OUT YOU MADE THAT UP, YOU'RE IN TROUBLE!
BUT I GET TEN EXTRA SARGE-FREE MINUTES!
GREG MORT WALKER

BLONDIE

MY CARPOOL IS TRYING OUT A NEW SYSTEM TO KEEP US FROM TALKING AT THE SAME TIME
I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL NEXT WEEK FOR MY TURN
YOUR TURN FOR WHAT, DEAR?
TO BE DESIGNATED COMPLAINER ABOUT HIS JOB

LOCKHORNS

DENNIS THE MENACE

SUDOKU

	7	3			8	5	6	
	9			5	7	8		
					9		7	
					2		3	8
			5	9	3			
7	3		4					
	1		6					
		4	9	2			1	
	6	2	8			4	5	

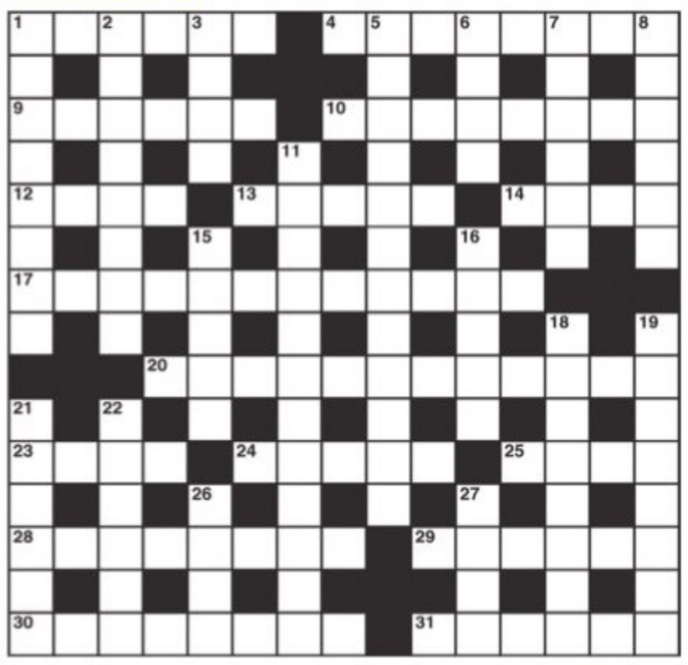
Medium: Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

3	8	4	1	6	2	9	7	5
1	6	9	7	4	5	2	8	3
5	7	2	8	3	9	6	1	4
9	3	6	4	2	8	1	5	7
4	5	8	9	1	7	3	2	6
7	2	1	3	5	6	8	4	9
6	9	7	2	8	4	5	3	1
2	1	5	6	7	3	4	9	8
8	4	3	5	9	1	7	6	2

CROSS WORD



ACROSS

1 One responsible for laughter in court? (6)
4 He could be in Madrid and Paris at the same time (8)
9 Article in paper is a hoax (6)
10 Sergeant out to part friends (8)
12 His initial character differed before conversion (4)
13 Pick up something exclusive (5)
14 A set of cards four inches high (4)
17 Practically speaking it addresses campers (2,3,7)
20 Demolition worker with criminal intent (12)
23 Further chaos in Laos (4)
24 Where Soviet leader appeared in a fur coat (5)
25 Game speculator (4)
28 Introduces ten changes in news papers (8)
29 Build new Northern capital (6)
30 Records an attempt to produce interior decoration (8)
31 Fits and starts (6)

DOWN

1 Sailor gains a lot of money in prizes (8)
2 Peculiar individual (8)
3 A noble brew of ale that's about right (4)
5 Having broken a personal record, though on the decline (4,4,4)
6 Ruler said to have played with fire (4)
7 Flower book (6)
8 Is afraid of disturbing adders (6)
11 He has a moving part to play in the theatre (5-7)
15 The poet appears to lie badly (5)
16 A way always short and direct (5)
18 After the burlesque let's organise a game (8)
19 They break the law and stow away in ships (8)
21 You may have a nap on it (6)
22 Slumbering; please disturb (6)
26 Elizabeth - a superior lady deserted by a sailor (4)
27 Tomorrow's paper? (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Quiet, 4 Aptness, 8 Asp, 9 Consulate, 10 Rosette, 11 Piece, 13 Laurel, 15 Stocks, 18 Wheel, 19 Intrude, 21 Inheritor, 23 Top, 24 Gamets, 25 Lurid.

Down: 1 Quarrel, 2 Imposture, 3 Tacit, 4 Armhem, 5 Trumpet, 6 Era, 7 Siege, 12 Encounter, 14 Enlarge, 16 Steeped, 17 Hiatus, 18 Wiring, 20 Tyrol, 22 Her.

JUMBLE By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DJEUG

TRBHE

DMELOU

SCCUTA

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What? It was such a long time ago.
What about, "Never mention it again!" did you not understand?
Way to go, Marv!
We should head home.
SHE GOT ANGRY WHEN HE BROUGHT IT UP. HE SHOULD HAVE AVOIDED THE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon

" - "

ANSWERS TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S: **Jumbles:** GIVEN MERGE FREELY BESIDE
ANSWER: The lawyers who had faith that teaming up would result in success were – FIRM BELIEVERS

ULB SCORECARD

CONG 7/10, JDS BAGS 2, BJP MANAGES 1

Setback for Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa as bastion Thirthahalli slips out of BJP's hands

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

IT'S bad news for the BJP, which managed to win just one of 10 civic bodies — the Congres won seven and the JDS bagged two. This comes just ahead of the May 2 counting of votes for the bypolls in Karnataka, and assembly elections in other states.

Traditionally, the ruling party holds an advantage in civic body elections, but that is not so for the BJP this time. It is especially disheartening for Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa who saw a setback in Thirthahalli in his native district Shivamogga.

The lone win for BJP came from the highly polarised Madikeri Town Municipality, where the party has traditionally managed to do well. This pro-BJP sentiment was not visible in the other civic body poll results, though.

In Ballari City Corporation, which was with the BJP, the Congress managed a convincing victory. The mining barons didn't do well either. Somashekar Reddy's son lost the polls, as did the son of former MP Sanna Fakeerappa, who is also Sriramulu's relative.

In an indication that BJP's popularity is declining, the Congress won 21 of the 39 seats in Ballari, leaving just 13 for the BJP, while the JDS drew a blank. In Ramanagara, where the JDS has traditionally done well, the Congress managed to do exceedingly well thanks to the personal involvement of DK Shivakumar and his brother-MP DK Suresh. Congress won 19, JDS won 11 here and BJP drew a blank, which is a great setback for the party which has tried to project DyCM Dr CN Ashwath Narayan as its Vokkaliga face here.

The Congress retained Bhadravati, its old bastion, and managed to storm Thirthahalli, which the BJP had been holding for 25 years in the CM's home constituency. The Congress won a convincing 9 of 15 seats, reducing BJP to just 6 seats, while the JDS drew a blank.

In Belur, in Hassan district, the Congress won 17 seats while BJP won just one seat. The JDS won 5 seats in Gudibande civic body in Chikkaballapura district, while the opposition Congress gained a clear majority, winning 6 of 11 seats, in spite of Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar working very hard here.

Reacting to the victory, Opposition leader Siddaramaiah, and DK Shivakumar said they could not contain their joy as the elections were held on April 27, just when Covid cases were peaking.

Congress meeting to discuss Covid situation on Monday

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

FORMER chief minister and Congress Legislature Party (CLP) chief Siddaramiah has convened a legislature party meeting on Monday to discuss the Covid situation in the state.

During the virtual meeting at 11 am on Monday, the party legislators will discuss the Covid situation in all the districts, including the shortage of beds with oxygen supply in hospitals, the government's "failure to handle the situation" and measures required to be taken up to help people, CLP secretary E Tukaram said in a communication to party legislators.

The CLP meeting is also likely to discuss the urban local body election results announced on Friday as well the assembly and Belagavi Lok Sabha bypoll results to be announced on Sunday.

Meanwhile, Siddaramiah has urged the state government to provide financial assistance to people hit by the Corona Curfew. In a letter to Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa, the former CM said that the state government must provide Rs 10,000 financial assistance to BPL families and also farmers. He urged the government to direct banks to provide Rs 5 lakh interest-free agricultural loan to farmers as they are in distress. The former CM also urged the government to take steps to help small and medium industries and provide them free power and give tax exemption on their exports.

State govt must provide ₹10,000 financial assistance to BPL families and also farmers. The govt must direct banks to provide ₹5 lakh interest-free agricultural loan to farmers as they are in distress

Siddaramaiah, Opposition leader

KPCC working president R Dhruvanarayan speaks to the media in Mysuru on Friday | EXPRESS

Party to set up help desks for Covid-19 in all districts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

THE Congress party which had launched 'Arogya Hasta' programme to help in distress during the wave of the pandemic, has gone a step forward by coming out with a plan to start a dedicated Covid helpdesk in each district.

Revealing this during a press meet here on Friday, KPCC working president R Dhruvanarayan said over 320 doctors have registered with the doctors' cell of the KPCC who will assist Covid patients and their family members by giving them required information besides helping them in getting a bed and other facilities. "The first such control room set up by the Mysuru district Congress committee would be operational in the city from Saturday," he said.

Coming down heavily against the state and Central government, he said: "Though our leader Sonia Gandhi and former prime minister Manmohan Singh tried to awaken the government from their slumber, they were ignored. The state is experiencing a lack of coordination in handling of the crisis."

He questioned the district administration and the minister for not opening up relief centres to assist migrants and shelterless hit by the crisis and suggested to involve NGOs and volunteers to set up such relief centres and give them shelter until the situation turns normal.

He urged the government to increase the daily wages under the MGNREGA from ₹289 to ₹350 and also extend the man days from 100 to 150 which would help people take up works amid the Covid crisis.

KPCC to start ambulance service too

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

AFTER starting a helpline at the KPCC office, the party is now providing ambulance service to Covid patients.

State Congress President DK Shivakumar on Friday said the helpline started by the party received over 3,000 calls and volunteers helped over 100 patients get admitted to hospitals. Consultation with doctors and medicines were provided to over 300 patients who called the helpline.

Ambulance service will start on Saturday, with a fleet of 10 vehicles. Shivakumar said they held discussions with the party's working presidents and former mayors to discuss how the party can help people as the government helplines are not working properly. Shivakumar said they will start helplines in all districts.

The party's central leaders are monitoring the work done by the state unit. AICC General Secretary in charge of Karnataka Randeep Singh Surjewala got an update on the helpline and ambulance service on Friday.

MCC starts shelter home for migrants

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

EXPRESS IMPACT

FOLLOWING a report published in TNIE about the plight of migrant labourers and homeless as the authorities had not opened a shelter home for them in the backdrop of stricter curfew, Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) set up one to lodge migrant workers, the shelterless and destitute across the city.

The corporation on Friday issued a press statement stating that the Nanjaraj Bahadur Choultry will be converted into a shelter home, considering the curfew announcement by the corporation, and will be run in association with the NGO Credit-I run by MP Varsha, with the assistance of MCC officers.

Shettar warns pvt hospitals against fleecing corona patients

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Hubballi

CRACKING the whip on private hospitals, Industries Minister Jagadish Shettar said in this situation of distress with many testing positive for coronavirus, the hospitals should not overburden the families by charging exorbitantly while treating the infected patients.

Chairing a meeting with the heads of private hospitals and doctors on Friday, Shettar said: "The government has taken adequate measures to treat patients free of cost and responsibility is also on the private hospital. Hence, they should also cooperate with the government in regulating the spread of infection further. They (private hospitals) should not exploit the helpless families and not bring disrepute to the noble medical profession."

Stressing that both the public and private healthcare institutions should work in tandem at this critical juncture, the minister said, concerted efforts were needed to manage the pandemic systematically.

TIMELY HELP

Starving and sick, home-alone retired teacher rescued

AJITH MS @Mysuru

While there are stories about people refusing to attend to their own kin over fear of catching infection, a 70-year-old retired teacher, who was left starving and covered in filth for weeks at her home in Mysuru, was rescued and put under care by caring citizens.

The unmarried woman was staying with her sister in Bengaluru, and had come to her home in Mysuru three months ago. With her health deteriorating and pandemic restrictions in place, she was confined to the house, and was found to be severely malnourished and dehydrated, and appeared to have gone without food for days.

Home-alone retired teacher being rescued in Mysuru on Friday | EXPRESS

"When we went into her home after a message from some neighbours, we found her lying in bed, covered in her own faeces. She was extremely malnourished and dehydrated. It was a horrible sight. Regardless of whether she is infected or not, we had to save her," said Kiran Robert, secretary of Rotary Panchsheel, Mysuru.

According to him, with the pandemic, it was tough to find a place to put her in care, since such centres have stopped admissions. "She only has a sister and brother-in-law who are themselves old and afraid to even step out. They asked us to shift her to a home, and luckily, Vimala Terminal Care Home in Hinkal agreed to take her in," said Robert.

He added that with the fear of Covid-19, he first rang up Lokayukta SP PV Sneha, who spoke to Mysuru City Corporation. "MCC health officer D G Nagaraj sent a team to collect her swab for Covid-19 test, and as her health was poor, a blood test was also done free of cost at the private diagnostic centre of Dr Zia-ur-Rahman, a city-based microbiologist," added Robert.

Despite the scarcity of ambulances due to the pandemic, city-based DRM Hospital lent its ambulance and staff to shift the senior citizen to the terminal care centre, where she is now recuperating.

XPRESS FOCUS

KIIT First Indian Varsity to Get Five Stars in QS Star Ratings

KIIT Deemed to be University has earned a new distinction to become the first Indian university to achieve the "Five Stars Rating" from the prestigious QS Star Ratings System. The QS Star Rating results were published on April 27, 2021. The QS Intelligence Unit, which also compiles the coveted QS World University Rankings, rated KIIT as a Five Stars institution, the maximum achievable, after rigorous and independent data collection and analysis of performance metrics in a range of indicators across eight categories. The rating will be valid for three years.

Every year the rating exercise evaluates higher education institutions from all over the world against pre-established global benchmarks of excellence across eight categories such as Teaching, Employability, Academic Development, Internationalization, Online Learning, Innovation, Inclusiveness and Computer Science & Engineering, a specialist criterion. KIIT scored perfect five in four categories and four in the remaining categories, ensuring the overall rating of Five Stars.

In the recent times KIIT achieved a rank of 201+ globally in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2021, that evaluates the social responsibility of universities across the world. The THE Impact Rankings are the only global performance tables that assess universities against the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). KIIT has been ranked 86th in 'Reduced Inequalities' of SDG with a standing within 100 universities of the world at least in a single parameter. KIIT has got the rank 101+ in 'Partnership for The Goals' and 201+ in 'Quality Education & Peace and Justice & Strong Institutions each. It is the only university in eastern India to achieve such an impressive rank. In 2020 KIIT was ranked in 501+.

Back to back impressive positions in two leading global university ranking and rating exercises have given a boost to the international standing of KIIT Deemed to be University, which has also been accorded the Institution of Eminence tag by the Govt. of India. KIIT is also the winner of 'Awards Asia 2020' in the category 'Workplace of the Year' by the Times Higher Education.

KIIT has been progressing with impressive ranks in quality teaching, research, publication, etc. What is more noteworthy is that KIIT has been carrying out its social responsibility with sincerity and dedication since its inception. Expressing happiness at the achievements, Dr. Achyuta Samanta, Founder, KIIT & KISS said "KIIT getting featured in the world rankings is a matter of pride for the state." "We are happy that KIIT Deemed to be University is the only higher education institution in the country to get the Five Stars ratings from the QS and among the top in the Impact Rankings of the Times Higher Education (THE)", he added.

Can Fin Homes Ltd

CanFinHomes Ltd (Sponsor: CANARA BANK)
CIN: L85110KA1987PLC008699

Basavanagudi Branch
29/1, III Floor, Sir M N Krishna Rao Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI Act) read with Rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (Rules)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd., under SARFAESI Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3, issued Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrowers / guarantors listed hereunder (hereinafter referred to as the "said Borrowers"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the Notice, within 60 days from the date of receipt of Notice, as per details given below.

The said Notices have been returned undelivered by the postal authorities / have not been duly acknowledged by the borrowers. Hence the Company by way of abundant caution is effecting this publication of the demand notice (as per the provisions of Rule 3 (1)). The undersigned has, therefore, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known addresses of the said Borrowers, as per the said Act.

As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to the Company by the respective parties as detailed below.

No.	Name of Borrowers/Guarantors with address	Amount claimed as per Demand Notice *	Description of the Secured Asset	Date of NPA
1	**1) Mr. Yogesh Murthy G N** S/o Narasimha Chari No. 36/1, House no.2, 9th cross, Lakshmi Sagar layout Mahadevapura Bengaluru – 560048 **2)** Mrs. Shruthi W/o Yogesh Murthy G N No. 36/1, House no.2, 9th cross, Lakshmi Sagar layout Mahadevapura Bengaluru – 560048	**Rs.7,35,083.00**	Site no. 45, Sy no.179, Old Sy no.75/1, (ASB Sai Nagar Layout) Doddabid arakallu Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Karnataka	**31.10.2020**
2	**1) Mr. A Ronald Rex (Borrower)** Flat No 10, Shelter Apartment, Palmgrove Road, Victoria layout, Bangalore 560047 **2) Mrs. Vishnupriya S (Co-Borrower)** Flat No 10, Shelter Apartment, Palmgrove Road, Victoria layout, Bangalore 560047	**Rs 46,04,343.00**	All that piece and parcel of immoveable property bearing Site No 296, 2nd Block, (EWS), 8TH Phase, JP Nagar Bangalore, Karnataka, measuring East to West 6.09 mtrs and North to South 9.14 feet, in total measuring 55.67 Sq. mtrs, bounded on the: East by: Site no.297, West by: Site no.295, North by: Road, South by: Site no.252	**30.11.2020**
3	**1) Mr. Mahesh S** S/o Siddappa No. 4, H Gollahalli Main Road Near Pruthvi International School Over Tank, Kengeri Bengaluru – 560060. **2) Mrs. Pushpavathi M** W/o Mahesh S No. 4, H Gollahalli Main Road Near Pruthvi International School Over Tank, Kengeri Bengaluru – 560060	**Rs.7,49,431.00**	Site no.17, Assessment no.23/2 & 25, Bangalore North Taluk, Karnataka, st Phase Iregenahalli Village, kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore	**28.02.2021**

Payable with further interest at contractual rates as agreed from the date mentioned above till date of payment.

You are hereby called upon to pay the above said amount with contracted rate of interest thereon within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the undersigned will be constrained to Initiate action under SARFAESI Act to enforce the aforesaid security. Further, the attention of borrowers / guarantors is invited to provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available to them to redeem the secured asset

Date : 30.04.2021
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Can Fin Homes Ltd.

HALAL
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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

COVID-19

04 BENGALURU SATURDAY 01.05.2021

TRACKING COVID-19

SPEED AND RISE OF COVID-19 CASES IN KARNATAKA

48,296 CASES REPORTED TODAY

35,024 CASES REPORTED YESTERDAY

TALLY STANDS AT

TODAY 15,23,142

YESTERDAY 14,74,846

DEATHS

TODAY 217

YESTERDAY 270

DISCHARGES

TODAY 14,884

YESTERDAY 14,142

ACTIVE CASES

TODAY 3,82,690

YESTERDAY 3,49,496

POSITIVITY RATE

TODAY 5.95

YESTERDAY 5.80

MORTALITY RATE

TODAY 1.01

YESTERDAY 1.03

RECOVERY RATE

TODAY 73.85

YESTERDAY 75.26

The first Covid-19 case in Karnataka was reported on March 8, 2020. Since then until April 30, 2021, a total of 15,23,142 cases have been reported in 1 year and 52 days...

95,81,682 Number of people vaccinated across the state

VACCINATION DRIVE STATUS

Health care workers 1st dose	6,76,497
Health care workers 2nd dose	4,30,652
Frontline workers 1st dose	3,77,151
Frontline workers 2nd dose	1,45,174
Age 45-60 1st dose	34,99,655
Age 45-60 2nd dose	2,52,070
Above 60 1st dose	34,97,513
Above 60 2nd dose	7,02,970

KARNATAKA'S RECOVERY RATE SLIDES

Drops from 98% in Feb to 73% in April; TN, Delhi, Andhra, Maharashtra, Kerala fare better than Karnataka

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

BACK in February 2021, Karnataka had touched a recovery rate of 98 per cent, with many districts achieving even 99 per cent. However, with the second wave of the pandemic bringing an exponential rise in Covid-19 cases, as of April 30, the recovery rate has fallen to 73.9 per cent.

Though Karnataka is in third position in the country with one of the highest number of total recovered patients, the recovery rate stands much lower than in many states.

Maharashtra tops the table with the highest number of recovered patients, at 37,99,266, posting a recovery rate of 83.7 per cent, followed by Kerala with 12,61,801 recovered patients and 80.3 per cent recovery rate. Karnataka, with 11,24,909 recovered patients, is at 73.9 per cent.

However, other states with fewer total recoveries than Karnataka are faring well in terms of recovery rate – Tamil Nadu posted 88.9%, Delhi 89.9%, Andhra Pradesh 88.1%, West Bengal 84.9%, Chhattisgarh 82.3%, while Uttar Pradesh has a low recovery rate of 73.6%.

According to experts, with a high number of cases at present, and many reaching severity at a faster stage, and taking time to recover, has reduced the number of recoveries. However, testing and identifying cases at the mild stage can help boost the recovery rate.

A senior citizen gets vaccinated in Bengaluru on Friday | EXPRESS

> We need to test, trace and isolate early for better recoveries. However, right now, it is too early for us to say as the curve was flattening in January, and recoveries were higher
>
> Dr Pradeep Rangappa, intensivist, Columbia Asia Hospital, Bengaluru

Dr Anant Bhan, researcher, Global Health, Bioethics and Health Policy, said, "With more number of people identified and tested and cases increasing, it will take time for these people to recover as Karnataka has been seeing a huge spike in cases. If the spike starts going down and the number of people under treatment reduces, we will see the recovery rate going up. However, with not many able to access healthcare right now, it could lead to deaths and increase the mortality rate. We should have learnt our lesson from last year and seen how other countries handled the second wave. In Karnataka, we had short-term appointments of doctors and epidemiologists who were let go when cases started coming down. We should have built up resources during this time. The big message is that we need to invest more in healthcare."

Dr Pradeep Rangappa, intensivist, Columbia Asia Hospital, Bengaluru, and member of the State Level Committee for Covid-19, said, "More number of tests results in picking up patients at an early stage, when they are mildly symptomatic. If testing is not carried out efficiently, there will be a delay in tracking patients who are in a severe condition, resulting in death. We need to test, trace and isolate early for better recoveries. However, right now, it is too early for us to say as the curve was flattening in January, and recoveries were higher. Right now, cases are increasing and we will be peaking. We need to wait till the curve flattens to see a better recovery rate."

The Divisional Railway Hospital near the rear entry of KSR Railway Station

Rly Hospital reaches critical stage as O_2 stock dips drastically

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

HORROR unfolded at the Bengaluru Divisional Railway Hospital on Thursday night as it was left with just one hour of oxygen supply for 13 patients battling Covid at the ICU.

The crisis was triggered with the hospital's regular oxygen supplier from Peenya not reaching the stocks in time, and the authorities allegedly not giving the issue the seriousness it warranted. A tragedy was averted as oxygen was arranged in the nick of time and emergency patients were saved.

The 65-bed hospital with 15 ICU beds, located at the rear exit of the KSR Railway Station, has been converted into a Covid-designated hospital. It is also well equipped with a centralised oxygen supply system.

A top railway source said that a private company, Southern Gas Supply, has been delivering the hospital around 70 litres of oxygen in jumbo cylinders every day over the last fortnight as there have been a surge in Covid cases among the Railway staff. "The supplier was expected to deliver oxygen on Thursday at his regular time of 4 pm. He did not turn up and told the hospital that he would not be able to supply oxygen as there was a heavy demand from other hospitals. The hospital authorities brought it to the notice of railway administration only around 7.30 pm when it was realised that the oxygen stock would last only little over an hour," the source said.

With hardly any time left to save lives, there was panic at the Divisional Railway Manager's office. DRM A K Verma and Additional Divisional Railway Manager, Administration, Kusuma Hariprasad, also the Covid in-charge officer, made desperate calls. Many other staff members too were trying to arrange oxygen somehow.

"Any quantity from any supplier, even one or two cylinders were bought before the hospital's oxygen ran out. After much pressure, the regular supplier finally landed around 9 pm with some cylinders," another source said.

The DRM said, "We generally have a continuous oxygen supply. Though the situation was critical today, it never went to zero. We have arranged supply from multiple sources and as of now, we have over 40 cylinders and expect to get 68 more cylinders by Friday night."

COVID REPORTS IN DISTS

Woman's body moved to hospital in earthmover

V Velayudham @Chikballapura

In a horrifying incident, a woman's body was moved to hospital in an earthmover, assuming that she had contracted Covid-19, in a village in Chintamani taluk of Chikkaballapura district, on Thursday evening. When the matter reached the police, they immediately shifted Chandra Kala (50) in a vehicle and later, it was also confirmed that she was Covid-negative. According to sources, Chandra Kala was living with her 12-year-old daughter in the village after her husband passed away five years ago. She worked as a labourer, or would clean vessels during marriage ceremonies to eke out a living. She was sitting in front of a tailor's shop on Thursday, when she suddenly collapsed and breathed her last. Fearing that she had died of Covid-19, no one came forward to shift her to hospital. Her daughter sought help, but to no avail. Finally, she was moved to hospital in an earthmover. Later, it came to light that Chandra Kala had tested negative for the virus.

'Drones can handle 40-kg payload in tough terrains'

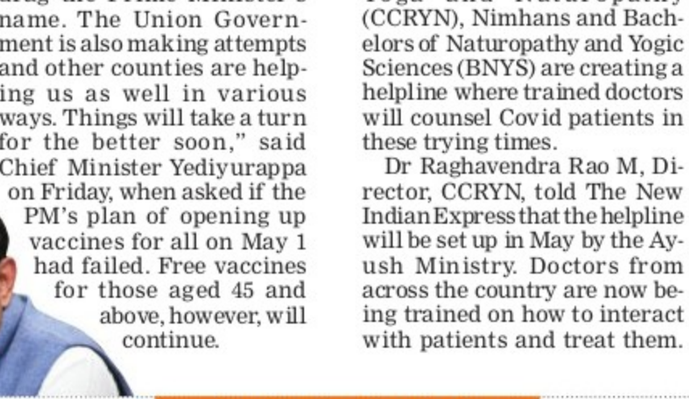
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE Chief Minister said that after trials, drones could also be used to ferry medicines and Covid-19 vaccines.

"I have partnered with the drone company to sanitise the whole of Bangalore Central using drones over the next 10 days. This is a service I am undertaking for my constituents and no charge or costs will be transferred to the State Government. The drones can be used for medicine and vaccine delivery if the BBMP permits it and allows trials," MP P C Mohan told TNIE.

Earlier in the day, while launching the service, Yediyurappa said, "For the first time in our country, drones are ready to supply medicines and sanitise public places. I appreciate the efforts of Garuda Aerospace in this domain and MP P C Mohan for partnering with them." He added that the drones being used now can take a payload of up to 40 kg and deliver medicines and vaccines in tough terrains.

In a statement, Garuda Aerospace said their drone - The White Knight - is capable of carrying a payload of 35-40 kg , is equipped with a temperature-controlled module and has an endurance capacity of two hours. "The White Knight drone has been in the research & development phase for the last two years to execute aerial delivery of emergency medicines, food and packages," it added.



Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa launches a drone-based sanitation initiative for Bengaluru on Friday | EXPRESS

Register on app for jab and wait for turn, says Sudhakar

CONTINUED FOM PAGE 1

WITH Serum Institute in Pune yet to supply Covishied vaccines, ordered by Karnataka at a cost of Rs 400 crore, the government has appealed to citizens in that age bracket not to approach hospitals for vaccines.

"We have placed an order for more than one crore doses. It is now official that it won't be delivered on May 1 as thought earlier. We request those aged between 18-44 to refrain from going to hospitals for vaccination. We will definitely intimate all when we get word from Serum institute. I request everybody to register on the CoWIN portal and to await your turn. We are trying our best to get the vaccines at the earliest. We are also requesting the Government of India to help us get the vaccines on priority," said Dr Sudhakar, on Friday on the eve of the planned vaccination drive for those above the age of 18 and below 45.

"There is no question of failure. We were supposed to get vaccine supplies, but it has been delayed. As soon as we get it, we will begin the drive. There is no need to drag the Prime Minister's name. The Union Government is also making attempts and other counties are helping us as well in various ways. Things will take a turn for the better soon," said Chief Minister Yediyurappa on Friday, when asked if the PM's plan of opening up vaccines for all on May 1 had failed. Free vaccines for those aged 45 and above, however, will continue.

NIMHANS specialists to help Covid patients fight mental health issues

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

NOW patients at home isolation, Covid Care Centres and hospitals need not fall into depths of depression as they will have experts to talk to and also get some advice on health.

To address mental health stress among Covid patients, the Ministry of Ayush's Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN), Nimhans and Bachelors of Naturopathy and Yogic Sciences (BNYS) are creating a helpline where trained doctors will counsel Covid patients in these trying times.

Dr Raghavendra Rao M, Director, CCRYN, told The New Indian Express that the helpline will be set up in May by the Ayush Ministry. Doctors from across the country are now being trained on how to interact with patients and treat them.

Along with counselling, patients will also be told what medicines to take, how to take, when to steam and other issues. For example, many Covid patients do not know how to steam and for how long. Some of them, who have not done it properly, have suffered burns in the upper respiratory system. Patients need right advice, he said.

Doctors and experts from Nimhans will provide integrated medicine, psychological and social support, apart from technical support. The Ministry has prepared a manual, which has been approved, and doctors have been trained as per this document. The departments are also working on connecting tele-callers at war rooms with trained doctors, who can counsel patients and also give them medical advice, he added.

Dr Aarti Jagannathan, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatric Social Work (Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services), Nimhans, said the doctors are being trained to help those at CCCs and home isolation. They will treat patients for mild symptoms. They will also guide patients on who to approach and where in case of an emergency, she added.

The doctors are trained to talk to patients facing mental and emotional stress, anxiety, sadness and other mood-related issues, sleep disorder, hygiene issues and even help those mentally dealing with financial issues.

HEALTH STATS

81% increase in number of tests

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE Health Department data says that on October 7 last year, 1,04,348 tests were conducted to detect a single-day addition of 10,974 cases. On Friday, 1,89,793 tests revealed an addition of 48,296 cases. This is an 81 per cent increase in the number of tests, but the comparative increase in the single-day addition is a whopping 340 per cent!

With the worsening situation in Bengaluru, and Karnataka in general, the state's recovery rate has fallen to 73.85 per cent from Thursday's 75.26 per cent.

The recovery rate was a robust 98.06 per cent on January 30, when the first wave was on the wane. Correspondingly, the state's positivity rate has been rising since April 4, when it was 4.63 per cent. On Friday, the state's positivity rate was at 5.95 per cent, up from 5.80 per cent on Thursday.

The mortality rate, however, has been falling and is now 1.01 per cent — an indication that the deaths, compared to the Covid-19 tally — have been just a fraction. It was 1.03 per cent on Thursday.

Bengaluru's Covid-19 tally now stands at 7,56,740 cases recorded since the pandemic reached the state on March 8 last year. It was 7,29,984 on Thursday.

ON THE GROUND

Volunteers helpless as request for beds shoot up, say situation 'too bad'

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

WITH the daily number of Covid cases jumping by thousands every day in the state, the situation on the ground has turned horrific. Many volunteers have come forward to help Covid patients find beds, but they have thrown up their hands, saying the situation is too bad and they are not being able to find beds for hundreds of desperate patients.

During the first wave of the pandemic in July-September when cases had shot up to between 5,000 and 10,000, many faced difficulties in finding beds. Now, with cases four times that number, the crisis is far worse, they said. As the State registered over 48,000 cases on Friday, the volunteers said it is next to impossible to get ICU beds in Bengaluru.

The volunteers usually try to book BBMP beds by calling zonal officers, but many a time BBMP does not call back and patients are left waiting with some even losing their lives. The 108 helpline constantly remains unresponsive, they complained.

Saqib Idrees, a volunteer from Bangalore for Migrants, said, "ICU beds are like a distant dream and even getting HDU beds is getting difficult. I have two numbers and I get over 3,000 calls every day. With the increase in cases, we have started prioritising cases. Right now, we are seeing the younger age group getting infected and needing oxygen or a ventilator. We put them on priority. On Friday, I had 500 patients in need of ICU, but not even one was available. Where will these patients go? We have had many pending cases. Some have gotten critical and passed away too. People have started sending videos, saying their father is not breathing and they need help desperately. But we are helpless."

Saqib Idrees, a volunteer, checks the temperature of a child | EXPRESS

Aimen Muiz, a volunteer from the Emergency Response Team, said, "I get around 200 calls per day from families of Covid-infected patients, asking me to find oxygenated beds as the patient's oxygen saturation level would have hit a low. We start panicking looking at the number of calls and patients in need. It is traumatising as we can only help around 10 patients that too based on the availability of beds. For others, we just give them the numbers and ask them to arrange for beds themselves."

She said, "Children call me and tell me that their father passed away because of Covid, and whether we could help save their mother by finding ICU beds. But there are absolutely no ICU beds anywhere."

Small-scale industries in Karnataka have called upon the Centre to come to their rescue, as the pandemic has again crippled their functioning, and they do not see an end to their woes anytime soon, even after restrictions imposed to contain the spread are completely lifted.

BUSINESS AS USUAL

A labourer goes about his work at a construction site during the statewide Corona Curfew, in Bengaluru on Friday. Only some sectors are exempt from the curfew regulations | ASHISHKRISHNA HP

IMA probe: IPS officer Hilori moves HC

Questions sanction given by the govt to prosecute him and the additional chargesheet filed by CBI

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

SENIOR police officer Ajay Hilori moved the Karnataka High Court on Friday, questioning the criminal proceedings initiated against him in relation to the IMA scam. He questioned the FIR sanction given by the State Government to prosecute him and the additional chargesheet filed by the CBI.

After hearing the arguments of the CBI's counsel, Justice Krishna S Dixit issued notice to the State Government, saying that the matter requires deeper consideration. Any further proceedings will be subject to the outcome of the writ petition, the judge said, while adjourning the hearing to June 4, 2021.

Firstly, Hilori challenged the sanction order dated September 9, 2020, issued by the government for the offences punishable under Sections 420, 406 and 409 of the IPC read with 120B, and Section 9 of the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishment Act, 2004. Secondly, he challenged another sanction order dated January 7, 2020, under Section 17-A of the Prevention of Corruption of Act to conduct investigation by the CBI against him, and the FIR registered by the agency on February 1, 2020, under the Prevention of Corruption Act, besides the additional chargesheet.

Hilori, the then DCP (East), had sent a report dated May 16, 2017, to the Commissioner of Police regarding the enquiry conducted against the IMA group. It was stated that based on the report submitted by the Police Inspector of Commercial Street police station, the closure of inquiry against the IMA group was recommended. It is forthcoming that the IMA group is conducting its business as per rules and regulations, and the same was sent to the Commissioner for further directions.

The counsel of the petitioner claimed that the allegations in the chargesheet lead to an irrefutable conclusion that this is a case of harassment with ulterior motives and political witch-hunting, and not a bonafide action of setting the criminal law into motion.

Pak engineer convicted for waging war against India

MG CHETAN @Bengaluru

A city court has convicted a Karachi-based chemical engineer, an alleged operative of banned terror outfit Al-Badr, who was arrested in Mysuru in 2006, for waging war against India.

Fahad alias Nadutani alias Mohammed Koya, a native of North Nazimabad of Karachi and an MSc graduate in Analytical Chemistry, was 24-years-old when he was arrested, along with another suspect, Mohammed Ali Hussain, also a Pakistani. They were nabbed by the Mysuru City Police on the night of October 26, 2006, on the ring road between Hunsur and KRS after an exchange of fire.

During the search of Fahad's house in Rajiv Nagar later, the police had recovered a Pakistani passport, six packets of different chemicals, blasting capes, 90 live cartridges and an empty AK-47 magazine, seven live cartridges of 9-mm pistol, explosive substances, and 30 CDs on which the label 'Making of chemical explosives details' was pasted, apart from books on Osama bin Laden and guerilla warfare.

The prosecution had charged Fahad under various sections of the IPC, UAPA, Indian Arms Act, Foreigners Act, Foreigners Registration Act, Explosive Substances Act, and Prevention of Money Laundering Act. The case was transferred to the special court constituted under the PMLA. "The illegal possession of prohibited weapon AK-47 and the live cartridges, and explosives found in the house of the accused would itself be sufficient to hold that he has hatched a conspiracy on gaining entry into India from Pakistan to carry out illegal activities with an intention to wage war against India, and to destroy public property. It is not only the mere possession of the prohibited weapon, but also use of the same for firing on the police team, who attempted to nab the accused," Principal City Civil and Sessions Judge Justice Anil B Katti said, while pronouncing the judgement.

Meanwhile, he has been acquitted for charges under the UAPA, wherein the court observed that an officer not below the rank of Secretary to the Government is the authority to accord sanction, but in the case, sanction was accorded by an undersecretary. Fahad was also acquitted for offences under the provisions of the Explosive Substances Act and PMLA.

Charges & Punishment

Waging war against the country - 10 years RI and fine of ₹10,000
Causing hurt - 2 years SI and fine of ₹2,000
Deterring public servant from discharging duty - 1 year SI and fine of ₹1,000
Indian Arms Act - 7 years SI and fine of ₹22,000
Foreigners Act - 2 years SI and fine of ₹11,000

It is not only the mere possession of the prohibited weapon, but also use of the same for firing on the police team, who attempted to nab the accused

Justice Anil B Katti

EXPRESS READ

Four held for faking Covid -ve reports

BENGALURU: The CCB arrested four suspects over allegations of handing out fake Covid-negative reports to people, after charging Rs 700 per person. They have been identified as Mukesh Singh (25) and Nagaraj alias Om Shakti (39). They reportedly knew the prime accused Bhaghya, who is employed at a PHC in Varthur. Another suspect includes a lab technician, Anil Kumar. Police have also seized 14 fake negative reports and two mobile phones. **ENS**

Assess lockdown impact on weaker sections: HC to state

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court has said it is appropriate for the State Government to convene a meeting to assess the lockdown's impact on the unorganised class of labourers, transgenders and other weaker sections, and come out with steps to provide them with food.

Issuing directions to the Advocate General to convene a meeting of all stakeholders and consider their views on food security, during a special sitting held to hear the PILs arising out of Covid-19, a division bench of Chief Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka and Justice Aravind Kumar said that due to lockdown and a huge surge in cases, the issue of food security among the weaker sections and the issue of relief to workers will require urgent attention.

Hunger Helpline

The State Government informed the court that the Labour Department has activated the contact number '155214', which could be utilised as the food/hunger helpline in the present situation. This helpline will also be used for employees to raise complaints regarding non-payment of wages and other work-related issues.

In reply, Advocate General Prabhuling K Navadagi submitted that he will hold a meeting of members of the Bar to discuss the issues of unorganised labour, transgenders and others.

Meanwhile, the court asked the Advocate General to look into the suggestions made by the committee constituted by the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority to oversee the Covid situation. The committee, comprising Justices AN Venugopala Gowda and KN Keshavanarayana, former HC judges, and KSLSA member secretary HN Shashidhar Shetty, submitted the report containing recommendations after visiting the public hospital at Jayanagar, and Sagar and Apollo Hospitals in the city.

The court observed that most of the suggestions are welcoming, while a few require response from the State Government.

ASI loses battle to Covid-19

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

AN ASI attached to the Kodigehalli police station succumbed to Covid-19 on Friday. The death of **Nanjappa** (57) is particularly tragic as he was engaged in ensuring that the public adhered to Covid norms. He breathed his last at 4 am at Akash Hospital, Devanahalli.

The ASI lost his life in the line of duty after three decades in the force. "We tried to help in whatever manner we could, but just could not save him. It is traumatic for all of us as his death was totally unnecessary," DCP (North East) C K Baba said.

CORRIGENDUM

With Ref. to NHAI InVIT Appt. Ad published on 21st Apr 2021, the last day for submission of application has been extended till 10th May 2021.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) ASMATH IBRAHIM, W/o. No. 7239561W L/Dfr (TS) Abdul Ibrahim, residing at No. 33, 9th Main Road, Dharamaram College, New Gurappana Palya, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore South, Karnataka-560029, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) ASMATH IBRAHIM** to **(NEW NAME) ASMATH** vide affidavit Dated 29/04/2021 sworn before Metropolitan Magistrate, Traffic Court-IV, Bengaluru.

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SOUTHERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.U-SG-01-2021-22 dated : 30.04.2021

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, Southern Railway, Madurai Division for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender for the following work as per detailed tender notice given in our e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in.** The tenderer(s) intending to apply need to get enrolled in the e-tender portal **"www.ireps.gov.in"** and only online tenders will be accepted. The date and time of closing is mentioned against each work. All relevant credentials & supporting documents are to be scanned and uploaded along with the offer.

Name of the Work : S&T Work in connection with Engineering works (Through fastening renewal. Through ballast renewal and through weld renewal etc. (Umbrella work 2020-21) TFR in mail line - 10.85 Kms in MMM, 19.00 Kms in VPT & 21.916 Kms in TEN section and TFR in P&Cs - 44 sets in SVGA, 48 sets in MMM, 13 sets in SCT & 5 sets in TEN sections. TBR - 35.763 Kms in MMM section. TWR - 30.00 Kms in PDKT, 5.00 Kms in MMM & 1.00 Km in SVV sections).

Closing Date and Time : 24.05.2021 at 11.00 hrs.

Senior Divisional Railway Manager (S&T), Madurai.

Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, AT BANGALORE
OA NO. 1483/2019

BETWEEN:
STATE BANK OF INDIA
Represented by its Cheief Manager Mr. Vinaya K. S/o Late Rama Bhatta K Asset Recovery Management Branch (Armb), BKG Complex, Mysore Bank Circle, Avenue Road, Bangalore-560009. EMAIL ID: sbi.40564@sbi.co.in
PAN NO: AAACS8577K IFSC CODE: SBIN0040007. **: APPLICANT**

AND:
M/s Excellent Treads, Represented by its Proprietorix, Smt. Snehalatha & others **: DEFENDANTS**

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (viii) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993 TO THE DEFENDANTS THROUGH PAPER PUBLICATION

TO
1.M/s Excellent Treads, Represented by its Sole Proprietorix, Smt. Snehalatha, Having its office at: No.212/2A, opposite Old SBM Road, Madhunagar, Domma sandra, Sarjapura Hobli, Bangalore -562125.
Also having address at: No.78/3, Heggondanahalli Village, Gunjur Post, Sarjapura Hobli, Bangalore-560087.
2. Smt. Snehalatha, W/o K V Shivaji, Proprietorix of M/s. Excellent Treads, 85/1, Gunjur Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Bangalore - 560087.
Permanent Address at: H No.18/A, Varuna Nilaya, Okly Camp, Sedam Road, Gulbarga - 585101.
3. K.V. Shivaji, 85/1, Gunjur Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Bangalore - 560087.
: DEFENDANS

1. Whereas the applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial institutions Act, 1993 against defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs.28,20,822/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakhs Twenty Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty Two Only)**.
2. The above mentioned Defendant are directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or duly authorized agent in support of your defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or **on 03/06/2021 at 10.30 AM** as to why relief/s prayed should not be granted.
3. Take notice that all in case of default the Application will be heard and determined in your absence, Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on **16th day of Dec, 2020** at Bangalore.

By order of Tribunal
Sd/- Asst. Registrar
Debt Recovery Tribunal-II

PARADIP PORT TRUST

e-TENDER CALL NOTICE : EM/17/2021

Name for the work **"Supply of manpower for Assistance in Operation & Maintenance of Interconnectivity of IOHP to MCHP"**. **Estimated Cost : ₹2,08,69,487/-, Last Date & time of submission : Dt.24.05.2021 at 17:15 Hrs.** Refer our website for details: **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.**

Executive Engineer (M)
Mechanised Coal Handling Plant, E&M Department

PPT/PR/29/2021-22, DT.30.04.2021

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC, AT DEVANAHALLI. C Mis.No.98/2021
Between: Sri. Muninarayanappa & Others
: Petitioners
And: The Tahasildar ...Respondent

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Petitioners have filed the above petition for the death certificate of Doddamunishamappa, S/o Chikkaveerappa was died on 08-05-2010 at Attibele Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the Addl Civil Judge & JMFC at Devanahalli and date of hearing on **11.06.2021 at 11.00 A.M.** in C.Misc.No. 98/2021.

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli.
Advocate for Petitioners: **SRI. ANJINAPPA. P,** Office at Deepanjali Building, Opp. Canara Bank, Devanahalli Town, Bangalore Rural District

IN THE COURT OF PRINCIPAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-31)
P & SC No. 101/2021
IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL & TESTAMENT OF SRI H P VISWANATHAN
BETWEEN: 1. Dr. H C Parameshwar S/o Late H. Chandrashekhariah, aged about 72 years R/a #132, 6th Main, 1st Cross, Shankarnagar, Bangalore-96.
2. Sri. H.V Vijaykumar S/o H.P Viswanathan, aged about 55 years R/a No. D-007 Casa Ansal Apartment J.P Nagar 3rd Phase, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore 560078. ...
EXECUTOR / PETITIONER
AND : Nil ... RESPONDENTS

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the above named petitioners have made to this Court a petition under Section 222 and Sec 276 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925, seeking for grant of probate of will to administer the immovable and movable assets belonging to deceased H.P Viswanathan, the deceased has made disposition in our favour by executed a will dated **04/08/2014** who died on **27/12/2020** owned by him during his lifetime. The 1st petitioner is the appointed executor and the 2nd petitioner is the Son of the deceased testator.
Interested parties are hereby warned to appear before the XXX Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge Bangalore (CCH-31) in person or by pleader duly instructed on **24.05.2021** at 11:00 AM, inform to show cause against the petitioners failing which the matter will be heard and disposed off in accordance with low.

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (As per WILL dated 04/08/2014)
SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

(a) One 3 BHK flat measuring 1625 sq.Ft. D-007, Casa Ansal Apartments, Bannerghatta Road, J.P. Nagar 3rd Phase, Bangalore 560 076 having Municipal No.18/126, bearing PID No. 57-137-18/126 purchased vide registered Absolute Sale Deed vide Doc No. JAY-1-02160-2006-07 in CD. No. JAY D 75 at pages 1 to 18 of Book-1 along with car parking area marked as Sl. No. 15 in 'D'. Basement measuring 200 Sq.ft., **East By:** Open to Sky towards road and mini Forest, **West by:** Flat No. D-008 in Block-D of Ansal apartment **North by:** Open to Sky towards Drive way, **South by:** Flat No. D 006 in Block 'D' of Casa Ansal Apartment.
(TRANSFERRED VIDE GIFT DEED registered in Sub-registrar Office Jayanagar, JAY-1-04310-2019-2020 in BOOK I also in C.D. No. JAYD545 dated 14/08/2019 after execution of will).
(b) A shop site measuring 20ftX20ft, totally 400 Sq. Ft in Ward No.20, Site No.28 in Sy. No. 21 of HBCS in Kenchanahalli, Bangalore. **East By:** Site No.29 **West by:** Site No. 27 **North by:** Site No. 23 **South by:** 30' Road.
(c) 2 BHK flat bearing No, 3702 on the Seventh Floor of Block 03 of 'A' of the apartment building known as "TRENDS WHISPERING WOODS" measuring 868 Sq.ft of Super Built up Area inclusive of share in common area of the building or 755 Sq.ft, of Plinth' located at TRENDZ at No.51 On Bhogadi Gatgide Road, Opp. To Roopnagar Bus Stop, Mysore-570 026 along with open Car Parking No. 3702. **East By:** Apartment No. 3701 **West by:** Apartment No.3703 **North by:** Internal Access **South by:** Internal Access (SALE DEED SECURED IN THE NAME OF FIRST SON RAVI KUMAR DIRECTLY FROM THE DEVELOPER after execution of will)
Along with movable Properties as stated in the will ie. Bank accounts/ FD Deposits, Stocks/ Shares/Debentures, Animal Trophies, Gold and jewelry and other miscellaneous Movable articles which he has meticulously mentioned in the schedule of the will.

SCHEDULE OF BANK ACCOUNTS/FIXED DEPOSITS

Sl. No.	Bank Name	Account Number	FDR Number	Amount
1	Karur Vysya	1315403000022128/1	1225656	Rs.6,56,175/-
2	Karur Vysya	1315403000022128	K017978	Rs. 6,00,000/-
3	Union Bank	379403030019525	522910	Rs. 10,00,000/-
4	Union Bank	379403020095291	522920	Rs. 5,00,000/-
5	Union Bank	379403020095287	522045	Rs. 20,00,000/-
6	Karnataka Bank	0611500123692301	220604	Rs. 12,00,000/-
7	Karnataka Bank	0611500123692301	384455	Rs. 10,00,000/-
8	Karnataka Bank	0611500219918701	384480	Rs. 8,73,715/-
9	Karnataka Bank	06 11500219918701	383495	Rs. 20,00,000/-
10	Karnataka Bank	0611500218624501	383496	Rs. 7,50,000/-
11	SBI (SB Account)	31829460784	-	Rs. 12,85,997/-
12	Karnataka Bank	0611500123772201	338857	Rs. 40,00,000/-

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 09-04-2021 at Bengaluru.
By the Order of the Court, Assistant Registrar city civil Court, Bangalore.

ADDRESS FOR SERVICE:
Advocate for Petitioners & Executors: **V.V. GUNJAL**
No 9, Model House Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004.

VEERASHAIVA SAHAKARI BANK LTD.,
Administrative Office : No. 1732/32, M.C.Road, M.C.Layout, Vijayanagara, Bangalore-560 040
Phone : 23307070 / 23358017 Fax : 23148550
E-mail : vsbbengaluru@gmail.com

POSSESSION NOTICE
(For Immovable Property) [rule 8(1)]
PUBLIC NOTICE

1. This is to inform the Public in General that **M/s. Super PVD Technologies (Pvt.) Ltd.,** has availed Rs. 1.50 crores mortgage loan **from our Kengeri Branch** on 24-3-2017 by pledging immovable property by 4 Guarantors. And they have failed to repay the loan amount regularly within the stipulated period. The Bank in process to recover the loan amount in accordance with **Securitization Act and Rules has issued a 60 days Demand Notice to the Company on 06-01-2021.** Inspite of this the Borrower have failed to repay the amount. Hence the Bank has sent the notice to the Borrower regrading taking Possession of pledged Immovable Property through Registered Post on 22-04-2021 to the above said **Company address, No. B-211, Khatha No. 69, 2nd Cross, 5th Main, Industrial Estate Peenya, Peenya 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560 058.** The said Registered Post has returned to the Bank by postal department with a remark **Allways Door Lock.**

Note : This paper publication notice should be considered as notice given to the Borrower.

2. This is to inform the Public in general that **M/s. Southern Innovation Technologies, (Loan Account No. MCHLN/1** and **Loan Account No. MTLN 10080, Rajajinagar Branch),** Proprietor **Mr. Kiran Krishna Reddy,** S/o Late Kondaiah and Guarantor Mrs. Lakshmi Prasanna, W/o Kiran Krishna Reddy, both residing at 'Srirama Nilaya", 6th Main, opp SRS Building, Kammagondanahalli, Jalahalli West, Bangalore-560 015 has availed Rs. 50 lakh loan to Purchase Machineries on 11-12-2019 and Rs.1.05 Crores Mortgage Loan on 31-08-2019 by pledging Immovable Property (Vacant Site) from our **Rajajinagar Branch.** And the Borrower has not repaid the said loan amount regularly within the stipulated period Hence the Bank in process to recover the loan amount in accordance **with Securitization Act and Rules has issued a 60 days Demand Notice on 08-01-2021** to the Borrower and Guarantor. Inspite of this they have failed to repay the loan amount. Hence the Bank has sent the notice to the Borrower regrading taking possession of pledged immovable property through Registered Post on 23-04-2021 to the above said **Company address, No. 6, 12-182, Guru Nanjundaiah Industrial Area, Lakshmipura Main Road, Chikka Banavara Post, Bangalore 560 090.** The said Registered Post has returned to the Bank by postal depatment with a remark **LEFT / RTS.**

Note : This paper publication notice should be considered as notice given to the Borrower.

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Veerashaiva Sahakari Bank Ltd.,
Bangalore-560 040

Bangalore
Date : 30-04-2021

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LIC HFL
LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD

LIC HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
15/1, Hayes Centre, Hayes Road, Richmond Town, Bangalore-560025
Phone: 65834138, 65466756, 65834139

PUBLIC NOTICE

All the original title deeds in respect of the immovable property bearing Apartment No.201, in Second Floor, built up area measuring 1275 Sq. Ft., and Undivided interest measuring 311.1 Sq. Ft., constructed on "VARS RENAISSANCE COURT", at Premises bearing No.4, HASB Katha No.112/D, situated at Byrasandra Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, HASB Area, Bangalore South, including the Original Registered Sale Deed dated 25.4.2001, registered as No.919/2001-02, Book I, Volume 1973, at pages 160-170, dated 25.4.2001, in the Office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Krishnarajapura, owned by Mr. JIJESH GOPALAN, S/o Sri.Gopalan.C.C, and Mrs.SHOBHA JIJESH, W/o Mr.Jijesh Gopalan, and mortgaged to my client in respect of loan A/c No.16061027894 & 16061030178, is misplaced/lost.
Any person in possession of the original title deeds of the above property is called upon to hand over the same to The Manager (Operations), LIC Housing Finance Limited, Hayes Road, Hayes Centre, Richmond Town, Bangalore-560 025, or to the undersigned within 10 days from the date of publication of this public notice, failing which the original title deeds of the above property will be treated as misplaced/lost for all future transactions in respect of the property.
RAJESH SHETTY, ADVOCATE,
NO.1653,VISHNUMURTHY NILAYA,
Pipeline Road, T.Dasarahalli,
Bangalore-560 057.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Rajajinagar 2nd Stage Branch
J-652, 1st Floor, Near Navaranga Theater, Rajajainagara 2nd Stage Bengaluru-560010
Ph:080- 23320324/23329494

DEMAND NOTICE [SECTION 13(2)]
TO BORROWER/ GUARANTOR/MORTGAGOR
NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

'We, **Canara Bank, (E-Syndicate Bank) Rajajinagar 2nd Stage Branch** had issued Demand Notices under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act 2002 by Registered Post with Acknowledgment Due (RPAD) to the addresses furnished to the Bank as mentioned below. Since the notice has not been acknowledgement returned due to non-availability of addressees at the said addresses / due to evading of service of the notices sent by RPAD, notice could not be served. Further, Bank had served the said demand notices by affixture at the addresses given. The contents of the said notices are mentioned herein below.

1) **Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor :**
1) Vishnu Kumar M s/o N S Mani **2) N S Mani** S/o Narayanaswamy **3) Vasantha** W/o N S Mani No. 93/A, 37th Cross, Rajajinagar Bangalore: 560010.
1) Vishnu Kumar M s/o N S Mani **2) N S Mani** S/o Narayanaswamy **3) Vasantha** W/o N S Mani No.72/B, 21st Cross, 2nd Block, Rajajinagar Bangalore: 560010

[Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower]

Sl. No.	Nature of Loan/Limit	Loan No.	Date of Sanction	Amount (In Lakhs)
1	04367740000808	Housing Loan (OSL-SYNDNIVAS)	28.03.2015	48,00,000/-

Total Liability Amont: Rs.60,02,268.59 (Rupees Sixty lakh two thousand two hundred sixty eight and paise fifty nine only) with further cost and charges and incidental expenses and costs together with interest at the rate of 8.90 %
NPA Date :31.03.2021 **Demand Notice Dated : 06.04.2021**
Details of security assets: Name of Title holder : Vishnu Kumar M s/o N S Mani
Immovable Properties: All that piece and parcel of House property bearing Khatha No. 3 (93/A), New Municipal No. 3, PID No. 15-32-3, Old Municipal No. (93A/3), Old House No. 93A, Situated at 37th Cross Road, 2nd Block, Rajajinagar Division No.11, Bangalore City Corporation, measuring East to West 25 feet, North to South 42.6 feet, in all measuring 1065 sq.ft Bounded By:- North by : Road South By: Property No. 94 B West By: Property No. 93B East By: Property No. 96 B

2) **Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor :**
Rathnamma B w/o Late Sri V Jayananda No.210, Ivarakandapura, Hesargatta Lake Bangalore: 560089.
Ratnamma w/o Sri Bylappa No.212, Ivarakandapura, Hesargatta Lake Bangalore: 560089

[Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower]

Sl. No.	Nature of Loan/Limit	Loan No.	Date of Sanction	Amount (In Lakhs)
1	04369340001032	Housing Loan (Sundnivas)	26.11.2019	27,50,000

Total Liability Amont: Rs.27,91,839.37 (Rupees Twenty seven lakh ninety one thousand eight hundred thirty nine and paise thirty seven), with further cost and charges and incidental expenses and costs together with interest at the rate of 6.95 %
NPA Date :30.03.2021 **Demand Notice Dated : 06.04.2021**
Details of security assets: Name of Title holder : Rathnamma B.
Immovable Properties: All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential site property bearing No. 142, carved out of St No. 192 and 193, E Khatha id No. 15020020270070048 3, situated at Ivarakandapur village Panchayat, Hesarghatta Hobli, Banglaore North Taluk, measuring east to west 40 feet and north to south 30 feet in all measuring 1200 sft and bounded on the east by private property, west by property belonging to Sri Kenchappa, North by property belonging to Smt Padmavathi and south by Road.

3) **Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor :**
M/s Kanva Tours and Travels (P) Ltd. 861, Kanva Sri Sai Complex, WOC Road 2nd Stage Modi Hospital Road, Bangalore: 560086 **Mr . Nanjundaiah N.** s/o Sri Narayanappa No. A 408, A Block, Brigade Gateway Apt, Dr Raj Kumar Road, 2nd Stage Rajajinagar, Malleshwaram West, Bangalore: 560055

[Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower]

Sl. No.	Nature of Loan/Limit	Loan No.	Date of Sanction	Amount (In Lakhs)
1	04367910000842	Term Loan-Syndtransport	14.01.2016	90,00,000/-

Total Liability Amont: Rs.67,95,166.50 (Rupees Sixty seven lakh ninety five thousand one hundred sixty six and paise fifty only.), with further cost and charges and incidental expenses and costs together with interest at the rate of 11.10 %
NPA Date :30.03.2021 **Demand Notice Dated : 06.04.2021**
Details of security assets: Name of Title holder : M/s Kanva Tours and Travels Pvt. Ltd
Movable Properties: VOLVO BUS, Model: Volvo 9400 B9R I-Shift 6x2 Coach Bus, Manufacturer: VOLVO Regd. No. KA01AF3249 Dated 20.01.2016, Chassis No. YV3S5L523G8174633M18 Engine No. 194633 Body: Saloon MFG

You are here by called upon to pay **Canara Bank,** within a period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, the respective amount mentioned here above, failing which **Canara Bank** will take necessary action under the provisions of the said Act, against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers and the Guarantors. The powers available to **Canara Bank** under the Act include (i) power to take possession of the secured assets of the Borrower / Guarantors / Mortgager including the rights to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realising secured assets and any transfer of secured assets by **Canara Bank** shall vest in the transferee rights in or in relation to, the secured asset transferred as if the transfer has been made by you. In terms of the provisions of section 13(13) of the said Act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business), any of the secured assets as referred to in the Demand Notice affixed and also Hypothecated / Mortgaged to the bank without prior written consent of the Bank. The notice is issued in terms of Section (13)2 of the said Act.

Date : 30.04.2021 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **Canara Bank**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸಿಐ 55 ಎಸ್.ಪಿಕ್ಯೂ (ಇ) 2019

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯ, ವಿಕಾಸಸೌಧ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.12.2020

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 1966 ರ ಕಲಂ 28(4)ರಡಿ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

1966ರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರದೇಶಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ (1966ರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 18) ಕಲಂ 28(1)ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ದತ್ತವಾಗಿರುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ 29.08.2019 ರಂದು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪತ್ರದ ಭಾಗ–3ರ ವಿಶೇಷ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ ಪುಟ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 4345 ರಿಂದ 4358 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟವಾಗಿರುವ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸಿಐ 59 ಎಸ್‌ಪಿಕ್ಯೂ(ಇ) 2019, ದಿನಾಂಕ 22.07.2019ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಸದರಿ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಜಮೀನುಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರದೇಶಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಾಗಿ ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಇಚ್ಛಿಪಟ್ಟಿದೆ.

ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯ ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಜಮೀನುಗಳನ್ನು ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿರುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾಗಿರುವುದು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಮನದಟ್ಟಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಕಲಂ 28(3)ರಡಿ ಆದೇಶ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಆದುದರಿಂದ 1966ರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರದೇಶಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ (1966ರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 18) ಕಲಂ 28(4)ರಡಿ ದತ್ತವಾದ ಅಧಿಕಾರದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವ ಜಮೀನುಗಳನ್ನು ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿರುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವುದೆಂದು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಘೋಷಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ.	ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂಬರ್	ಖಾತೆದಾರರು/ಅನುಭವದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು	ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ (ಎ–ಗು)			ತರಹೆ	ಆಕಾರ	ಚೆಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ			
			ಐನ್	ಖರಾಬು	ಬಾಕಿ			ಪೂರ್ವ	ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ	ಉತ್ತರ	ದಕ್ಷಿಣ
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ: ಹಾಸನ		ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು: ಅರಸೀಕೆರೆ		ಹೋಬಳಿ: ಕಸಬಾ			ಗ್ರಾಮ: ಮೈಲನಹಳ್ಳಿ			
1.	94 ಪೈಕಿ	ತಹಶೀಲ್ದಾರ್, ಅರಸೀಕೆರೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು	2–14	–	2–14	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	2.74	ರಸ್ತೆ	94ರ ಉಳಿಕೆ	ರೈಲ್ವೆ ಹಳಿ	97
2.	95/1 ಪೈಕಿ	ಚನ್ನಬಸಪ್ಪ ಎಂ.ಎಸ್. ಬಿನ್ ಲೇ॥ ಸೋಮಶೇಖರಪ್ಪ	0–03½	–	0–03½	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	0.09	94	95/1ರ ಉಳಿಕೆ	ರೈಲ್ವೆ ಹಳಿ	94
3.	96 ಪೈಕಿ	ಎಂ.ಎಸ್.ಶಿವಶಂಕರಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಭಾಗ್ಯಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ॥ ಎಂ.ಎಂ. ರಾಮಣ್ಣ	4-26	0–03	4–23	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	4.96	97	133	96ರ ಉಳಿಕೆ	133
4.	97/1	ಎಂ.ಎನ್.ಜಯಣ್ಣ ಬಿನ್ ನಂಜುಂಡಪ್ಪ ಶಾರದಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ॥ ಚನ್ನಬಸಪ್ಪ ಚನ್ನಬಸಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ॥ ಪಂಚಾಕ್ಷರಪ್ಪ	3-06	–	3–06	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	3.09	98	97/2	94	107
5.	97/2	ಜಗದೀಶ ಬಿನ್ ಪಂಚಾಕ್ಷರಪ್ಪ	2-09	–	2–09	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	2.19	97/1	96, 97/3	94	97/5, 97/6
6.	97/3	ರಾಜಣ್ಣ ಬಿನ್ ರಂಗೇಗೌಡ	0-21	–	0–21	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	0.52	92/2	97/4	94	97/2
7.	97/4 ಪೈಕಿ	ಶಂಕರಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ರಂಗೇಗೌಡ ನಿಂಗಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ರಂಗೇಗೌಡ	0-31	–	0–31	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	0.76	97/3	96	94	97/2
8.	97/5	ರಾಜಣ್ಣ ಬಿನ್ ರಂಗೇಗೌಡ	0-32	–	0–32	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	0.79	107	97/6	97/2	107
9.	97/6	ರಾಜಣ್ಣ ಬಿನ್ ರಂಗೇಗೌಡ	0-33	–	0–33	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	0.81	97/5	96	97/2	107
10.	107/1	ಸಿದ್ದೇಶ ಕೆ. ಬಿನ್ ಎಂ.ಎಸ್. ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ	0-22	0–02	0–20	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	0.54	ರಸ್ತೆ	107/3	97	10/2
11.	107/2ಪೈಕಿ	ಎಂ.ಎಸ್. ಲೋಕೇಶ ಬಿನ್ ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ	0-33	–	0–33	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	0.89	107/2ರ ಉಳಿಕೆ	107/3	107/1	108
12.	107/3	ಕುಮಾರಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಬಿನ್ ಮೈ.ಗಾ. ತಂದೆ ರಂಗಪ್ಪ	1-18	–	1–18	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	1.57	107/1, 107/2	107/4	97	108
13.	107/4	ರೇವಣ್ಣಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಬಡವೇಗೌಡ	1-09	–	1–09	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	1.33	107/3	96	97	108
14.	108/1	ರೇವಣ್ಣಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಬಡವೇಗೌಡ	1-02	0–02	1–00	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	1.17	ರಸ್ತೆ	108/2	107	109
15.	108/1	ಹೇಮಾ ಕೋಂ ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್	1-24	0–04	1–20	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	1.76	108/1	133	107	109
16.	109/1	ಹೇಮಾ ಕೋಂ ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್	0-24	–	0–24	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	0.71	109/2	133	108	110
17.	109/2	ಹೇಮಾ ಕೋಂ ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್	2-10	–	2–10	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	2.63	113	109/1	108	110
18.	110	ಅನಿತಾ ಎನ್. ಕುಮಾರ್ ಬಿನ್ ಎಂ.ಸಿ. ಅಣಪ್ಪ	3-13	–	3–13	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ ತರಿ	3.90	113	133	109	111
19.	111	ಎಂ.ಆರ್. ರಾಜಶೇಖರ್ ಬಿನ್ ಎಂ.ರುದ್ರಶೆಟ್ಟಿ ಎಂ.ಆರ್. ರಾಜಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಎಂ.ರುದ್ರಶೆಟ್ಟಿ ಎಂ.ಸಿ. ಶರತ್ ಬಿನ್ ಎಂ.ಆರ್. ಚಂದ್ರಶೇಖರ್	4-20	–	4–20	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	5.27	113	133	110	112
20.	112	ಗುರುಲಿಂಗಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಅಪ್ಪೇಗೌಡ ಗಂಗಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ನಂಜುಂಡಪ್ಪ ಎಂ.ಎಸ್. ದೇವರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ಶಿವಣ್ಣ	4-30	–	4–30	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	6.04	114	133	111	132
21	113/2 ಪೈಕಿ	ಗಂಗಮ್ಮ ಶೇಖರಪ್ಪ ಬಸವರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಪ್ಪ ರಾಮಣ್ಣ ಬಿನ್ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಪ್ಪ ಬಸವರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಪ್ಪ ಚನ್ನಬಸಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಸೋಮಶೇಖರಪ್ಪ ಬಸವರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ಸೋಮಶೇಖರಪ್ಪ (ಜಂಟಿ)	1–10	–	1–10	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	1.35	ರಸ್ತೆ	110, 111	109	112
22	114/1	ನೀಲಕಂಠಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ನಂಜುಂಡಪ್ಪ	1–19	0–08	1–11	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	1.50	ರಸ್ತೆ	112, 132	113	114/3
23	114/3	ರೇವಣಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಬಡವೇಗೌಡ	1–02	–	1–02	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	1.23	ರಸ್ತೆ	131, 130	114/1	114/4
24	114/4	ಕೆಂಚಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ. ಎಂ. ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ	0–33	–	0–33	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	0.98	ರಸ್ತೆ	130	114/3	114/5
25.	114/5 ಪೈಕಿ	ನೀಲಕಂಠಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ನಂಜುಂಡಪ್ಪ	0–28	–	0–28	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	0.83	115	130	114/4	ರಸ್ತೆ
26	115 ಪೈಕಿ	ಎಂ.ಆರ್. ರಾಜಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಲೇ. ರುದ್ರಶೆಟ್ಟಿ ಎ.ಎಂ. ಉಮಾ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ. ಎಂ.ಆರ್. ಪ್ರಕಾಶ್	0–06	–	0–06	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	0.18	ರಸ್ತೆ	114	114	115ರ ಉಳಿಕೆ
27	129	ರೇವಣಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಬಡವೇಗೌಡ	1–07	–	1–07	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	1.47	130	130	130	ರಸ್ತೆ
28	130/1 ಪೈಕಿ	ಎಂ.ಮರುಳೀಗೌಡ ಬಿನ್ ಗುರುಲಿಂಗೇಗೌಡ	1–13	–	1–13	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	1.66	114	129	130/2	130/1ರ ಉಳಿಕೆ
29	130/2	ಎಂ.ಎಸ್.ಕರಿಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಶೇಖರಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ರೇವಣಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ	2–00	–	2–00	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	2.74	114	132	130/3, 131	ರಸ್ತೆ, 130/1, 4, 129
30	103/3	ಹೊನ್ನಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ರೇವಣಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಶೇಖರಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ರೇವಣಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ	1–16	–	1–16	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	1.78	131	132	112	130/2
31	130/4 ಪೈಕಿ	ಎಂ.ಎಸ್. ಕರಿಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಅನ್ನಪೂರ್ಣಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಲೇಟ್ ಎಂ.ಎಸ್.ನಾಗರಾಜು	2–26	–	2–26	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	3.32	129	132	130/2	130/4ರ ಉಳಿಕೆ
32	131	ಶೇಖರಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ರೇವಣಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ	1–12	–	1–12	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	1.66	114	130	132	130
33	132	ಬಸವರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಭಾಗ್ಯಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಲೇಟ್ ಎಂ.ಎಂ. ರಾಮಣ್ಣ	9–34	0–06	9–28	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ, ತರಿ	12.32	114, 130	150, 151	112	150, 130, 131, ರಸ್ತೆ
34	133	ಗೋಮಾಳ, ಕೃಷ್ಣಯ್ಯ ಬಿನ್ ಪೂಜಗಯ್ಯ ಕೃಷ್ಣಯ್ಯ ಬಿನ್ ಪೂಜಗಯ್ಯ ಲೋಹಿತ್‌ಕುಮಾರ್ ಬಿನ್ ಹನುಮಯ್ಯ ಗೌರಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಹನುಮಯ್ಯ ಗಂಗಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಮೂಡ್ಲಗಿರಿಯಪ್ಪ ಮೈಲಾರಯ್ಯ ಬಿನ್ ದೊಡ್ಡಯ್ಯ ಪಾಪಣ್ಣ ಬಿನ್ ದೊಡ್ಡಯ್ಯ ಬಸವರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ದೊಡ್ಡಯ್ಯ ನಂಜುಂಡಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ದೊಡ್ಡಯ್ಯ (ಜಂಟಿ) ಮರಿಯಯ್ಯ ಬಿನ್ ಗಂಗಪ್ಪ ದಾಸಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಅಂಬ್ಲಿಗಿರಿಯಪ್ಪ ಪುಟ್ಟಯ್ಯ ಬಿನ್ ಈರಯ್ಯ ಉಮೇಶ್ ಬಿನ್ ಈರಯ್ಯ ವೆಂಕಟೇಶ ಬಿನ್ ಈರಯ್ಯ ಗೋವಿಂದರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ಈರಯ್ಯ ಗುರುಮೂರ್ತಿ ಬಿನ್ ಈರಯ್ಯ (ಜಂಟಿ) ಪುಟ್ಟಯ್ಯ ಬಿನ್ ಈರಯ್ಯ ಉಮೇಶ್ ಬಿನ್ ಈರಯ್ಯ ವೆಂಕಟೇಶ್ ಬಿನ್ ಈರಯ್ಯ ಗೋವಿಂದರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ಈರಯ್ಯ ಗುರುಮೂರ್ತಿ ಬಿನ್ ಈರಯ್ಯ (ಜಂಟಿ)	37–20	37–20	–	–	–	96 ಇತರೆ	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಗಡಿ	133ರ ಉಳಿಕೆ	ರಸ್ತೆ
35	150	ಸಾವಿತ್ರಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಚಿಕ್ಕಣ್ಣ ಎನ್.ಪಿ	5–18	0–18	5–00	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	6.35	132	133	133	151
36	151/2 ಪೈಕಿ	ಅನ್ನಪೂರ್ಣಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ॥ ಎಂ.ಎಂ. ನಾಗರಾಜು	2–26	0–06	2–20	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	2.92	151/1	133, 159	151/3	133, ರಸ್ತೆ
37	151/3	ಭಾಗ್ಯಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ॥ ಎಂ.ಎಂ. ರಾಮಣ್ಣ	2–33	0–04	2–29	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	3.19	132	133	150	151/2
38	156	ಮಾಲೇ ಕಲ್ಲಯ್ಯ ಬಿನ್ ಮೈಲಯ್ಯ ಗಂಗಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಮೂಡಲಗಿರಿಯಪ್ಪ	4–00	0–03	3–37	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	4.99	133	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಗಡಿ	133	157
39	157	ಮೈಲಾರಯ್ಯ ಬಿನ್ ದೊಡ್ಡಯ್ಯ ಪಾಪಣ್ಣ ಬಿನ್ ದೊಡ್ಡಯ್ಯ ಬಸವರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ದೊಡ್ಡಯ್ಯ ನಂಜುಂಡಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ದೊಡ್ಡಯ್ಯ (ಜಂಟಿ)	4–00	0–01	3–39	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	5.85	133	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಗಡಿ	156	158
40.	158	ಸಾವಿತ್ರಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಸಣ್ಣಯ್ಯ ಕರಿಯಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಕರಿಯಪ್ಪ ಮಂಗಳಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ (ಜಂಟಿ)	4–00	–	4–00	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	5.08	133	ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಗಡಿ	157	133
41	159	ಎಂ.ಪಿ. ಚಿಕ್ಕಣ್ಣ ಬಿನ್ ಪೂಜಿಗಯ್ಯ	4–00	–	4–00	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	5.08	151	133	133	133
		ಒಟ್ಟು	127–06½	39–00	88–06½						
		ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ : ಹಾಸನ	ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು : ಅರಸೀಕೆರೆ			ಹೋಬಳಿ : ಕಸಬಾ			ಗ್ರಾಮ: ಹುಣಸೇಕಟ್ಟೆ		
1.	7.	ಗೋಮಾಳ, ಕಲ್ಲಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಚಿಕ್ಕೇಗೌಡ ನಂಜುಂಡಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ದಾಸೇಗೌಡ ಹೆಚ್.ಜಿ. ಬಸವರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ಗಂಗಾಧರಪ್ಪ ಬಸವರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ತಿಮ್ಮೇಗೌಡ ಕುಮಾರಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಹಲಗೇಗೌಡ ಶಿವಣ್ಣ ಬಿನ್ ತಿಮ್ಮೇಗೌಡ ಶಾಂತಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ॥ ಸಿದ್ದಯ್ಯ ಹೆಚ್.ಕೆ. ಶಿವಣ್ಣ ಬಿನ್ ದಿ. ಕಲ್ಲೇಗೌಡ ರಘು ಬಿನ್ ಉಮಾಪತಿ ಕಮಲಮ್ಮ ಬಿನ್ ಉಮಾಪತಿ ನಿಂಗಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಚನ್ನಬಸವೇಗೌಡ ರತ್ನಮ್ಮ ಬಿನ್ ನಂಜುಂಡಪ್ಪ	15-00	15–00	–	–	–	ಮೈಲನಹಳ್ಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಗಡಿ	44, 6, 8,	ಆದಿಹಳ್ಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಗಡಿ	ರಂಗಾಪುರ ಕಾವಲು ಗಡಿ
		ಒಟ್ಟು	15–00	15–00	–						

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.	ಗ್ರಾಮ	ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ (ಎ–ಗುಂ)		
		ಐನು	ಖರಾಬು	ಬಾಕಿ
1	ಮೈಲನಹಳ್ಳಿ	127–06½	39–00	88–06½
2.	ಹುಣಸೇಕಟ್ಟೆ	15–00	15–00	–
	ಒಟ್ಟು	142–06½	54–00	88–06½

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಆದೇಶಾನುಸಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ
(ಎನ್.ಕುಮಾರ್)
ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧೀನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ (ಕೈ.ಅ)
ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಇಲಾಖೆ

DIPR/DDMYS/MCA/95/2021-22

IN THE COURT OF THE CITY CIVIL AND SESSION JUDGE AT BANGALORE
P & SC. No.231/2021 (CCH-13)

BETWEEN: 1. Smt. SEEMA JOSHI, W/o Dattatreya Hampiholi, aged about 52 years, **2. Kum. DEEKSHA HAMPIHOLI,** D/o Dattatreya Hampiholi, aged about 26 years, **3. Kum. ANUSHA HAMPIHOLI** D/o Dattatreya Hampiholi, aged about 21 years, **4. ADITYA HAMPIHOLI** S/o Dattatreya Hampiholi, aged about 18 years, All are R/at; No.95, Baalaji Laxmi, Krishna Road, Gruhalakshmi Layout, VTC, Bangalore North, Basaveshwaranagar Post, Bangalore -560 079. ... **PETITIONERS**
AND: NIL. ...RESPONDENTS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the petitioners above named have filed the above petition for grant of succession certificate U/s. 372 of the Indian Succession Act in respect of the petition schedule **S B A/C. No. 5370718808, Citi Bank, M.G. Branch, Bangalore, stands in the name of Late Dattatreya Hampiholi ,** who is the husband of 1st petitioner and father of petitioner 2 to 4 who died on 18-12-2020. Any body interested to oppose the above petition may appear **on 27-05-2021** at 11.00 clock either in person or by an advocate duly authorised, failing which the matter will be heard and determined experte.

SCHEDULE

1. S B. A/C. No. 5370718808, Citi Bank. M.G. Branch, Bangalore, in the Name of Deceased Dattatreya Hampiholi.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on 27-04-2021.

By order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.

L.R. Rajeswari, Advocate
05, 1st Floor, 3rd Cross, Muneshwara Nagar, Uttarahalli Main Road, Bangalore -560 061.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This to inform the general public that my clients **Sri. RANJITH.H.S,** S/o Sri. Srinivasaiah.H.C, aged about 34 years, **Smt. Deepika.B.S** W/o Sri.Ranjith.H.S, aged about 30 years, Both are R/at No.66, Hanchipura Village, Amruthuru Hobli, Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur District, intending to purchase the schedule property from its lawful owners **Sri. Shanmughananda** S/o Late Parvathappa, aged about 62 years, **Smt. N. Nagarathnamma** W/o Sri.Shanmughananda, **Sri Bharathkumar .K.S** S/o Sri Shanmughananda, all are R/at Kannalli Village, Kodigehalli Post, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore. If any person/s having any claims, right, title and /or interest or possession in relation to the above sale transactions, or whatever claim over the schedule property or any portion thereof in any manner, may be intimated to me within 15 (Fifteen) days from the date of this publication along with documents in support thereof. If no tenable objections are received within the said period, my client will proceed to complete the sale transaction, deeming that there are no claims/interest or objections in respect of schedule property from any one.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property bearing **Site No.1851,** situated 1st Block, 'J' Sector, Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout, formed by the BDA (Sy.No.81/1 Kodigehalli Village) Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, measuring **East to West 6.00 Meters** and **North to South 9.00 Meters,** totally **measuring 54.00 Sq.Meters** and bounded on the **East by:** Site No.1850, **West by:** Site No.1852, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site No.1858.

PUTTARAJU .H.B, Advocate
No. 4, 8th Main, Mudalagiriyappa Enclave, 3rd Floor, Shivanagar, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-10. Mob: 99005 33005
Date: 30-04-2021

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER NOTICE
No. SBC-TRO-RR-HUP-03/2021 and SBC-TRO-RR-DPJ-04-2021

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites tender for the below mentioned work.

Sl. No.	Description of Work	Approximate Value
1	Round the clock Security, maintenance, cleaning, housekeeping of running room, Round the clock serving of Train Ordering Calls to the occupant of RR, Dry Cleaning of Linens, providing washed linens to every occupant, loading & unloading Line Boxes of Loco Pilots (Drivers) from Crew Box Room to Loco and vice versa at running room, Hindupur and dry cleaning coaches of T. No.66523/24 & 77419/18 (Daily) for a period of 01 year.	Rs. 964635.82
2	Round the clock Security, caretaking, maintenance, cleaning, housekeeping of running room, round the clock serving of train ordering calls to the occupant of RR, dry cleaning of linens, providing washed linens to every occupant, loading & unloading line boxes of loco pilots (drivers) from crew box room to locos and vice versa at running room, Dharmapuri and dry cleaning coaches of T. No.76553/54 at DPJ station for a period of 730 days.	Rs. 1486785.00

Last date of submission of bid: **28.05.2021** at **15.00 hrs.**

For details log on to www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical) Bengaluru

No.PUB/08/AAAL/PRB/SBC/2021-22

यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया **Union Bank of India**
Andhra Bank | Corporation Bank

Regional Office: 2254, "Koushalya", 3rd Floor, South Wing, Vinoba Road, Mysore - 570 005

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties charged/mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/ Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Union Bank of India (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s)& Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:

Union Bank Of India, NO: 13/1 & 13/2, Temple Road, Vontikoppal, V.V. Mohalla, Mysore-570002
Ph: 0821-2513211

Name & Address of the Borrowers & Guarantor/s	Amount due Rs.
1. **M/s FORTIUS IT SERVICES PVT. LTD.,** Special Plot No.6 & 7, KSSIDC Industrial Area, Hebbal, Mysore - 570016. 2. **Mr. K. Sridhar** S/o T. S. Krishna Iyengar, #736, 3rd Cross, Thyagaraja Road, K. R. Mohalla, Mysore-570024. 3. **Late Mr. G N Madan Mohan** S/o Nanjundaiah G.N., Represented by his legal heirs, #11643B, 2nd Main Road, Near Kuvempunagar Bus depot, Aravindanagar, Mysore-570023. 4. **Mr. Sarvesh Kumar M S** S/o. Somashekarappa, # 004, Olety Kalyani, 1st Main, 9th Cross, Nagarabhavi Main Road, Kalyan Nagar, Moodalpalya circle, Bangalore - 560072. 5. **Mr. Umesh B.,** S/o Late M. Basavarajaiah, # 154, 2nd Cross, Canara Bank Colony, Nagarabhavi Road, Bangalore-560072. 6. **Mr. K. Sridhar** S/o T. S. Krishna Iyengar, # 700, 17th Main, Saraswathipuram, Mysore-570009	Rs. 1,88,05,122/-

1. Property in the name of S Sarvesh Kumar: All the piece and parcel of the Residential Flat no 004 on the Ground Floor of 'OLETY KALYANI' Built on Corporation Muncipal No. 5, PID No. 38-30-5, Situated at 9th Cross, Kalyanagar, Bangalore, Corporation Ward No. 38, Now Corporation Ward No. 127, Bangalore, Measuring 610 sqft undivided share of right with car parking. Measuring Super build up area 1520sqft.Bounded on to the Boundaries: East: Road, West: Staircase & Flat no 001,North:Flat no 003, South: Road
2. Property in the name of Sarvesh Kumar M S: All the piece and parcel of Residential Site Property Bearing No.79 and KhataJanjer No 397(old no 342) Measuring East to West 12 mtr and North to South 18 mtr, totally measuring 216 sqmt. Formed and developed by Kanaka House Building Society in Different Converted lands situated at Maadagalli Village, yelwalaHobli, Mysore taluk, Mysore dist. Bounded on to the Boundaries: East: Site No 80, West: Site No 78, North: Road, South: Site No 88.
3. Property in the name of Sarvesh Kumar M S: All the piece and parcel of Residential Site Property Bearing No.455 and KhataJanjer No 550(Old no 342) Measuring East to West 12 mtr and North to South 18 mtr, totally measuring 216 sqmt. Formed and developed by Kanaka House Building Co-Operative Society Ltd. In Different Converted lands situated at Maadagalli Village, yelwalaHobli, Mysore taluk, Mysore dist. Bounded on to the Boundaries: East: Site No 456, West: Site No 454, North: Road, South: Road.
Date & Time of E-Auction: on 18/05/2021. Reserve Price: For Property No. 1.: Rs. 88,65,000/-. For Property No. 2.: Rs. 44,71,000/-. For Property No. 3.: Rs. 44,71,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: For Property No. 1.: Rs. 8,87,000/-. For Property No. 2.: Rs. 4,47,000/-. For Property No. 3.: Rs. 4,47,000/-.

Name & Address of the Borrowers & Guarantor/s	Amount due Rs.
1. **M/s FORTIUS IT SERVICES PVT. LTD.,** Special Plot No.6 & 7, KSSIDC Industrial Area, Hebbal, Mysore - 570016. 2. **Mr. K. Sridhar** S/o T. S. Krishna Iyengar, #736, 3rd Cross, Thyagaraja Road, K. R. Mohalla, Mysore-570024. 3. **Late Mr. G N Madan Mohan** S/o Nanjundaiah G.N., Represented by his legal heirs, #11643 B, 2nd Main Road, Near Kuvempunagar Bus depot, Aravindanagar, Mysore-570023. 4. **Mr. Sarvesh Kumar M S** S/o. Somashekarappa, # 004, Olety Kalyani, 1st Main, 9th Cross, Nagarabhavi Main Road, Kalyan Nagar, Moodalpalya circle, Bangalore - 560072. 5. **Mr. Umesh B.,** S/o Late M. Basavarajaiah, # 154, 2nd Cross, Canara Bank Colony, Nagarabhavi Road, Bangalore-560072. 6. **Mr. K. Sridhar** S/o T. S. Krishna Iyengar, # 700, 17th Main, Saraswathipuram, Mysore-570009	Rs. 1,88,05,122/-

All the Piece and Parcels of the Property In the name of UMESH: - All that piece and parcel of vacant site bearing No. 13, CMC Katha No. 775/791, and Site Bearing No. 14, CMC Katha No. 776/792, curved out of BBMP katha Nos. 857 / 775 / 791 / 816 / 844, Formed in Sy No. 23, New Sy No. 65, Re.Sy.No. 67, (duly converted by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District. Bangalore, Vide Conversion,Order No. BDIS / ALN.SR(S) 394/1991-92, dated: 07-07-1992) Boomika layout, BBMP Ward no 198, situated at Mylasandra Village, KengeriHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, Measuring East to West 80ft, North to South 65ft totally Measuring 5200 sqft. Bounded on to the Boundaries: East: Site No 15, West: Site No 12, North: Road, South: Private Property.
Date & Time of E-Auction: on 18/05/2021. Reserve Price: Rs. 2,09,00,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 20,90,000/-.

Name & Address of the Borrowers & Guarantor/s	Amount due Rs.
1. **M/s.Skytop Builders Pvt Ltd.,** No.175, 6th Cross, Gandhi Nagar, Bangalore-560009, Represented by its Directors: 2. **Sri. Nagendra Prasad,** No. 29/A, 9th Main, RMV Extension, Sadashiv Nagar, Bangalore - 560080. 3. **Smt. Meera N Prasad,** No.29/A, 9th Main, RMV Extension, Sadashiv Nagar, Bangalore- 560080. Guarantor 1. **Sri. Nagendra Prasad,** No. 29/A, 9th Main, RMV Extension, Sadashiv Nagar, Bangalore - 560080. 2. **Smt. Meera N Prasad,** No.29/A,9th Main, RMV Extension, Sadashiv Nagar, Bangalore- 560080.	Rs. 2,63,43,777/-

Free Hold right of **1.** Alienated land - Property No 34, 36/1, Khata Janjar No. 6/7, 5/7, Sy No 36/1 total 5.28 acres & Khata Janjar no 5/7, Sy no 36/1 total 1.39 acres in Karakanahalli village, Ilawala Hobli, Mysore Tq. **Bounded by :** East: Sy no 36/2 & 51, West: Sy no 32, North: Sy no 8, South : Sy No 35.
2. Alienated land-Property No. 33, total 1.14 acres in Karakanahalli village, Ilawala Hobli, Mysore Tq. **Bounded by:** East: Sy no 34, West: Tankbund Road, North: Land bearing No 8, South: Land bearing no 34 & bearing site No 1 to 7,12,13,16,21 to 23, 27,29 to 47, 52 to 89, & 92 to 94.
3. Alienated land in Sy no 170/2 total 2.22 acres, Sy no 170/3 total 1.25 acres, Sy no 170/4 total 1 acres in Karakanahalli village, Ilawala Hobli, Mysore Tq. **Bounded by :** East: Road & Landed property in sy no 146, West: Landed property in Sy no 146 &156, North: Landed property in Sy no 170/1, South: landed property in Sy no 146.
4. Alienated land in Sy no 136/1, total 2.36 acres in Karakanahalli village, Ilawala Hobli, Mysore Tq. **Bounded by :** East: by land in Sy no 136/01, West: by land in Sy no 129, North : by land in sy no 129, South: by land in sy no 137.
5. Alienated land in Sy no 130/1, total 1.15 acres in Karakanahalli village, Ilawala Hobli, Mysore Tq. **Bounded by :** East: Land of Naganna, West: Land of Chikkathamma, North: Land of Kalavathi, South: K Mahesh.
6. Alienated land, in Sy no 137 total 0.20 acres in Karakanahalli village, Ilawala Hobli, Mysore Tq. **Bounded by :** East: by lands in sy no 136/01, West: by lands in sy no 129, North: by lands in sy no 129, South: by lands in Sy no 137.
7. Alienated land in Sy no 90/3 total 0.26 acres in Karakanahalli village, Ilawala Hobli, Mysore Tq. **Bounded by :** East: by sy no 91, West: by sy no 90/1, North: by land in sy no 91, South ; by land in sy no 90/2.
8. Alienated land in Sy no 130/2 total 0.20 acres in Karakanahalli village, Ilawala Hobli, Mysore Tq. **Bounded by:** East: by sy no 119, West: by sy no 130, North: by Sy no 125, South: remaining portion of land in Sy no 130.
9. Alienated land in Syno 178 total 2.01 acres & Sy no 179 total 2 acres in Karakanahalli Village, Ilawala Hobli, Mysore Tq. **Bounded by :** East: Land in Sy no 144, West: Land in Sy no 144 & 142, North : Land in Sy no 144, South : Land in sy no 143.
10. Alienated land in Sy no 119/1 total 2.32 acres in Karakanahalli village, Ilawala Hobli, Mysore Tq. **Bounded by:** East: Govt Lane, West: Land of Siddegowda & remaining portion of land in Sy no 130, North: remaining portion of land in sy no 120, South: land in sy no 119/2.
Date & Time of E-Auction: on 18/05/2021. Reserve Price: 17, 96,32,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 1,79,64,000/-.

Union Bank Of India, No. 193, B Block, J P Nagara Mysore-570008
Ph: 0821-2372601 -9880641916.

Name & Address of the Borrowers & Guarantor/s	Amount due Rs.
1. **Gurulingappa G Koppa,** Row House, Park Villa No 40, New No.48, Park Villa Vidya Nagar Cross Road, Chikkajala Opp. Venkateshwara Engineering College Bangalore-562157 2. **Savitha G Koppa,** Row House, Park Villa No 40, New No.48, Park Villa Vidya Nagar Cross Road, Chikkajala Opp Venkateshwara Engineering College Bangalore-562157	Rs. 1,12,55,185/-

All the part and the parcel of the property belongs to Mr Gurulingappa G Koppa & Smt Savitha G Koppa: duplex row house/apartment bearing villa no 40, facing western side, in the row houses apartment building complex known as park villa built in survey no 119 measuring to an extent of 1 acre 12 guntas and sy no 76/21, new no 148, measuring to an extent of and 0.12 ¾ guntas, situated at vidyanagara cross, chikkajala hobli, opp venkateshwara engineering college, bengaluru – 562157 and measuring 1750 sqft (UDS) row house with plinth area 3042 sqft (SBA) and, bounded by, east: pvt property in sy no 119 belonging to appanna, west: pvt properity in sy no 119 belonging to anjanappa, north: property belonging to vaddarakullappa, south : vidhyanagar main road.
Date & Time of E-Auction: on 18/05/2021. Reserve Price: 1,57,50,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 15,75,000/-.

For detailed terms and condition of the sale and registration and login and bidding rules visit: please refer to the link provided https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp, https:// www.unionbankofindia.co.in//english/ TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

Date: 29-04-2021
Place: Mysore

Sd/- Authorized Officer
Union Bank of India

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1.5L DOSES OF COVAXIN Odisha Govt on Friday received 1.5L doses of Covaxin from Bharat Biotech as the first consignment of State's own procurement for free jab of 18 to 44 yrs age group

Be ready for swearing-in: Pinarayi to officials

CM directs General Administration Department to make arrangements for the event on May 3 if LDF retuns

SHAN A S @ T'Puram

IN an interesting move, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has directed General Administration Department (GAD) to arrange the swearing-in ceremony on Monday in case the LDF government returns to power. The results of assembly polls will be announced on Sunday and the directive to hold the swearing-in ceremony the very next day was necessitated by the worsening Covid situation in the state.

The swearing in will be a low-key affair and will in the Raj Bhavan itself. Either chief minister only or CM and three or four senior ministers from constituent parties will swear in on that day. Government sources told *TNIE* that the directive was given to the GAD top bosses earlier this week which to them appeared a strange and overconfident move. In normal circumstances the front that wins the election assumes power a few days after the verdict is out. In 2016 assembly polls, the verdict came on May 19 and Pinarayi Vijayan was sworn in as the CM six days later.

"Usually there is a brief interval between the announcement of results and the swearing-in ceremony. However, here the CM has done away with that gap and for the officers it appeared to be an outlandish move. However, it could have been the grim Covid scenario that prompted him to give such a directive," said a government source. The CPM and Pinarayi Vijayan have been vocal about their chances to return to power and that confidence has got a shot in the arm with the exit polls pointing to an LDF win. It could have prompted the CM to issue the instruction.

As per the protocol, a new government can swear in after the incumbent CM submits his resignation to the Governor. The winning front then should hold a parliamentary party meeting and elect the next chief minister, who will then meet the Governor and stake his claim for forming a government.

If Pinarayi has to re-assume his office on the very next day of the poll results, he would have to rush through all the above-said procedures in a day, which appears difficult but not impossible. In the special circumstances, chances are high that LDF parliamentary party will meet online and elect Pinarayi Vijayan as its leader.

FINDING WAYS

With the statewide Corona Curfew in place, people use a tonga to get around in Kalaburagi on Friday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS READ

18-44 yr olds unable to book vaccination centre in TS

Hyderabad: While the Covid vaccination drive for even those aged between 18-44 years has been pegged to start from May 1 by the Centre, on Friday all vaccination centres from Telangana available on CoWIN portal had the disclaimer that only those aged above 45 years can book a slot. Social media was abuzz with disgruntled youngsters, who were looking forward to get vaccinated against the disease.

Industries seek easing of Covid rules

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

SMALL-scale industries in Karnataka have urged the Centre to come to their rescue as the Covid pandemic has again crippled their functioning, and they don't see an end to their woes anytime soon, even after restrictions imposed to contain Covid spread are completely lifted.

Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association (KASSIA) has written to the Prime Minister and Finance Minister, explaining the need for relief in the coming days in terms of funding support to be back on track. Many of these units, up to 25-30 per cent employing lakhs of people, may shut down in the absence of direct and targeted one-time cash infusion immediately, the association stated.

Need for relief and relaxation of norms

Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association (KASSIA) has written to the Prime Minister and Finance Minister, explaining the need for relief in the coming days in terms of funding support to be back on track

"The overall economic downturn has been compounded by the pandemic disrupting markets and supply chains. SMEs, in particular, are affected due to this in terms of sales and cash flow problems, labour absenteeism and are not in a position to meet the various commitments and compliances required of them," KASSIA president KB Arasappa stated. To reduce the burden on SMEs, they urged the Centre to permit them to pay GST once in three months, relax stipulations on statutory payments like Provident Fund and ESI contributions by extending time for such payments to SMEs, relax non-performing asset norms on SMEs, maintain financial flow to SMEs to meet working capital and other needs in the prevailing circumstances, and speed up payments due to them by PSUs and other State undertakings.

KASSIA urged the finance minister to provide direct financial grants to SMEs by paying 50 per cent of the salaries of these units at least for three months, as this will not only help the units survive but also benefit labour directly. "We request government to extend GST payments and Returns filing deadlines for the months of March, April and May up to June 2021, without penalty and interest to get the desired relief," they added.

ORDINANCE PASSED

Teachers' transfer process to begin soon, says minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

PRIMARY and Secondary Education Minister S Suresh Kumar on Friday announced that the Governor has promulgated an ordinance amending the Karnataka State Civil Services (Regulation of Transfer of Teachers) Act, 2020 (Karnataka Act 04 of 2020). The amendment was earlier discussed by the cabinet.

The teachers' transfer process will begin soon, he added, in a note. Governor Vajubhai Vala on Thursday promulgated the ordinance as the Karnataka Legislative Assembly and Council are not in session, and are not likely to meet in the near future.

It's mandatory

Due to compulsory and extra transfers, about 3,500 teachers have been adversely impacted and as a humanitarian consideration, the govt is ensuring they get a chance for transfer

As per the ordinance, called the Karnataka State Civil Services (Regulation of Transfer of Teachers) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021, teachers who were on compulsory transfer, zonal transfer or under rationalisation outside the taluk or district during the year 2019-20, will be provided an opportunity to opt for a place of transfer within the taluk or district where they were working in 2019-20. This is a one-time measure, ahead of other types of transfers, subject to the availability of vacancies.

Nearly 72,000 applications for transfers will be processed in the 'Shikshaka Mitra' app itself, the minister said, adding that education officials have been advised to hold the entire counselling process online. Teachers will not be physically counselled, and the process will be transparent and timely. A strong system will be in place to redress any complaints, the minister said, on his instructions to department officials.

Due to compulsory and extra transfers, about 3,500 teachers have been adversely impacted, and as a humanitarian consideration, the government is ensuring they get an opportunity for transfer. "We asked for immediate transfers, and the minister held a number of meetings and assured us that when the CM is in better health, talks will be held with the cabinet and the transfer process will be completed," said Chandrashekar Nugli, general secretary, State Primary Teachers' Association. Counselling through Shikshaka Mitra app, launched this year, should be done at the earliest, he added.

ANDHRA PRADESH CENTRAL POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED
Dr.Y.S.R VIDYUT SOUDHA,CORPORATE OFFICE, ITI COLLEGE ROAD, VIJAYAWADA-520 008

TENDER NOTICE

ForTender Notice No :CGM/PROJ/DBT/Allied Materials/NCB-02/2021-22

Bids through www.apeprocurement.gov.in are invited from eligible bidders for Supply of 5 Lakh SMC Meter Box with clamps, 5 Lakh 3Ø 415V 32A TPN Switches, 5 Lakh Shunt Capacitors , Weather resistant 10sqmm twin core PVC cable and Weather resistant 16sqmm single core PVC cable, 5 Lakh G.I Earth pipes 25mm dia 1.5mts Long. and GI wire no.8 and fixing of Energy Meters in SMC Meter Box and other materials as per the sketch to 5 Lakh agriculture service premises to capture Agricultural services consumption data in Guntur, Krishna and Prakasam Districts under YSR Uchita Vyavasaaya VidyutPathakamwith100% CAPEX Model. Schedule download start date is 03.05.2021 from 17:00 Hrs

Last date for Bid submission online is 15.06.2021 by 17:00 Hrs

Chief General Manager/ Projects
E-mail:cgmproj.cpdcl@apcpdcl.in

Office of The Executive Engineer
Public Works, Ports & Inland Water Transport Department
Ramanagara Special Division, Ramanagara

No.EE/PWP&IWTD/S.D/RMG/Short Term Tender-01/2021-22 Date: 26-04-2021

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION No.01/2021-22

Tenders are invited in two cover system from the eligible contractors for **01 Work** of **Rs.200.00 Lakhs** through e-Procurement Portal as per the Standard bid documents. The eligible contractors can participate in this tender through e-Procurement Portal **https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Documents may be downloaded from **30.05.2021** to **31.05.2021**. Last date for submission of tender **31.05.2021 upto 16.00 Hours**. Pre-bid meeting **25.05.2021 at 16.30 Hours.** Date of opening of Technical bid **01.06.2021** (if possible) at **16.30 Hours.** Tender Processing Fees, EMD as per e-Procurement. For more information contact the undersigned during office Hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PWP & IWTD Spl. Division, Ramanagara

SAD/DIPR/RMN/40/YC/2021-22

Zilla Panchayath, Tumkur
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Tumkur
Office of the Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Tumkur

No.: EE/PRED/Tmk/TND No-12/JE-1/2021-22 Date: 22.04.2021

E-procurement Tender Notice
Two Cover System
Short Term Tender Publication No. 01/2021-22, Dated: 22.04.2022

Short Term tenders are invited through e-procurement by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D. Tumkur, Under 5054-Lum Sum Scheme in Tumkur Taluk. The work details can be obtained from the e-procurement website. The tender documents can be obtained and submitted **on or before 10.05.2021, upto 5.00 p.m.** Further details can be obtained from website at **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or contact this office during office working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Tumkur

DIPR/TUM/37/MCA/2021-22

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KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
e-Tender Notice

Tender No : Re E - Tender No. 04/2021-22/SRI/NTR. State Plan 2018-19 Part A – Instrument required at SRI, Nettoor – Procurement of (GC-MS) Gas Chromatograph – Mass Spectrometer for SRI. EMD : Rs. 50000. Tender fee : Rs. 2500/-. Last Date for submitting Tender : 25-05-2021 03:00:pm. Phone : 0484-2702278. Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.

KWA-JB-GL-6-70-2021-22

Superintending Engineer
SRI Circle, Nettoor

ANDHRA PRADESH CENTRAL POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED
Dr.Y.S.R VIDYUT SOUDHA,CORPORATE OFFICE, ITI COLLEGE ROAD, VIJAYAWADA-520 008

TENDER NOTICE

ForTender Notice No :CGM/PROJ/DBT/Metering/NCB-01/2021-22

Bids through www.apeprocurement.gov.in are invited from eligible bidders for Supply, Installation, Configuration and Integration of 5,00,000 No's of 3Ø, (10A-60A, Class 1.0) whole current Smart Energy Meters as per IS 16444 part-1/ 3Ø, (10A-60A, Class 1.0)whole current Energy Meters as per IS 13779 with Local Communication (IRDA/Bluetooth) with Modem and Relays with required software (HES,MDMS/MDAS) Open license, with necessary hardware and Software integration with APCPDCL central server and billing system to capture Agricultural services consumption data in Guntur, Krishna and Prakasam Districts under YSR Uchita Vyavasaaya Vidyut Pathakam with 100% OPEX Model. Schedule download start date is 03.05.2021 from 17:00 Hrs

Last date for Bid submission online is 15.06.2021 by 17:00 Hrs

Chief General Manager/ Projects
E-mail:cgmproj.cpdcl@apcpdcl.in

KARNATAKA FOREST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
PULPWOOD WING, SHIVAMOGGA.
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of The Executive Director, KFDC Ltd.,
Near R.T.O Office, Shimoga

No.KFDC/ED/A6/CR-85/2021-22/163 Date: 30.04.2021

BRIEF e-BID NOTIFICATION

The e-tender is invited through e-procurement from the wood based industries i.e. pulp and paper / rayon grade pulp, MDF board manufacturing industries / Any other pulpwood consuming industries etc. existing in Karnataka or else where for purchase of **111600 MT** of without bark OR **133920 MT** of withbark of Eucalyptus / Acacia pulpwood from the plantations of Shimoga, Chickmagalore, Dharwad, Bangalore division which is under the control of Executive Director, Karnataka Forest Development Corporation Ltd., Shimoga.

Note : Above mentioned quantity is only approximate. The actual quantity will be intimated during execution of agreement.

1. **Place of receiving e-tender** : e-procurement portal website https:/www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in
2. **EMD amount : Rs. 5,00,000.00 (Rs. Five lakhs)** only to be deposited at e-procurement portal.
3. Date and time of receiving e-tender by e-procurement portal **up to 17.30 hrs. of 01.06.2021**
4. Date and time of opening e-tender by the undersigned: **04.06.2021 at 15.30 hrs.**

The other details required if any pertaining to the bid may be obtained from the e-procurement portal office - Phone No. 080-25501216, 080-25501227/above office phone No. 08182-272155 during the office hours.

Sd/-
Executive Director,
Shivamogga

DIPR/SMG/No.165 -04 /ZENKAR/2021-22

Karntaka Neeravari Nigam Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer, Upper Tunga Project Division, Shivamogga Ph: 08182-257189, Fax: 08182-254832, email: eeutpsmg@gmail.com

1) EE/UTPDN/SMG/KNNL/PB-2/2021-22 TN NO-05 Date 29-04-2021
2) EE/UTPDN/SMG/KNNL/PB-2/2021-22 TN NO-06 Date 29-04-2021

Short Term Percentage Tender Notification
(Through e-procurement only)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bengaluru, the undersigned invites tender through e-portal system from eligible contractors for Two (02) works. coming under Tunga modernization Project Under Head of Account 4701)

1) Approx. amount put to tender as per estimation is from **338.58 lakhs to 486.36 Laks**
2) Last date for questions/clarifications regarding the tender: **05.05.2021 upto 17.00 hours.**
3) Date for submission of filled tenders from **30.04.2021 to 11.05.2021 upto 17.30 hours (during office hours)**

Further details on date of opening the tender/detail of works, EMD amount/ terms and conditions of the tender / class of contractors, etc can be obtained in the Tender Notification or from the Office of the Undersigned during office hours or in website : **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**. For further details, the office of the undersigned can be contacted during office hours on Ph.No. 08182-254832 from **30.04.2021**. Information can be obtained through **https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
KNNL, UTP, Division, Shivamogga

DIPR/SMG/No.158-04/ZENKAR/2021-22

BENGALURU URBAN, BENGALURU RURAL & RAMANAGARA DIST.
CO-OP. MILK PRODUCERS' SOCIETIES UNION LIMITED
Bamul
Bangalore Dairy, D.R. College Post, Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bengaluru-560029, Ph: 080-26096258, Fax: 080-25536597. e-mail: bamulengg@yahoo.com, website: www.bamulnandini.coop

TECHNICAL AND COMMERCIAL TENDER OF WORKS PART-1
TENDER INVITATION (I F T)

IFT No. BAMUL/M(E)/E-Tender/PW-02/03/38/2021-22 Date: 30-04-2021

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender are invited through e-procurement portal from eligible tenderers registered in PWD Department / Central PWD Department / M.E.S Departments at the following places at Bangalore Milk Union Ltd. Work details and schedule is given in the Table below. The Earnest Money Deposit (E.M.D.) should be valid for 45 days beyond the validity of the tender. Earnest money deposit will have to be paid in any one of the forms as specified in the tender document through e-procurement portal only.

Sl. No.	Name of Works	Construction of Curd Cold Room and GM(Dairy) & GM (Engg) office @ Bamul Premises	Expansion of Product block in first floor at Bamul premises
1	Package No.	KW-4	KW-4
2	Contractors Grade	Class-1 and above	Class-1 and above
3	Estimated cost of work (in Rs.)	1,60,00,000.00	2,70,00,000.00
4	EMD amount (in Rs.)	1,60,000.00	2,70,000.00
5	Period of completion	270 Days (Including Monsoon)	365 Days (Including Monsoon)
6	Access to E- Tender Portal only	From 30.04.2021 to 15.05.2021 upto 5.30 PM	From 30.04.2021 to 29.05.2021 upto 5.30 PM
7	Last date for tender Queries	13.05.2021 upto 2.30 PM	27.05.2021 upto 2.30 PM
8	Last date & time for Submission of Tenders	15.05.2021 upto 5.30 PM	29.05.2021 upto 5.30 PM
9	Date & time for opening of Technical Tender (Part-I)	17.05.2021 upto 2.30 PM	01.06.2021 upto 2.30 PM
10	Date & time for opening of Commercial Tender (Part-II)	Will be informed to successful tenderer	Will be informed to successful tenderer
11	Place of pre-bid meeting, opening of Technical / Commercial Bid	**Bamul, Board Room, Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bengaluru-560029**	

More details on the tender are available in e-procurement portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Managing Director
Tender Inviting Authority
Bangalore Milk Society Union Limited

email-serv_kpd@yahoo.com

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, KENDRAPARA-JAJPUR

No. Tender Online RCK - 08/21 Letter No.- 1121 Date:- 29.04.21
0-117

e-Procurement NOTICE

1. Name of the work : Construction of MCS Building Works in the District of Kendrapara
2. Class of Contractor : **A & Special** Class as specified in the **column 7 of the Annexure.**
3. Time for Completion : As specified in the Column-8 of the Annexure.
4. Detail Projects : **As per Annexure attached**
5. Other Details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur	Tender Online RCK - 08 / 21	03.05.21 At 11.00 A.M	17.05.21 At 5.00 P.M	13.05.21 Up to 5.00 P.M	18.05.21 At 12.00 P.M	27.05.21 At 12.00 P.M.

Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur **OIPR- 25129/11/0005/2122**

KMML *The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd.*
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking)
(An ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001 & SA 8000 Certified Company)

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KOLLAM, KERALA, INDIA.
Phone : +91-476-2651215 to 2651217
Fax : +91-0476-2680101, 2686721
E-mail : **contact@kmml.com**, URL : **www.kmml.com**
CIN-U14106KL1972SGC002396

SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE

Competitive Tenders are invited for following. For more details please visit the E-Tendering Portal, **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in** or **www.kmml.com**

No	Tender Id	Name of the Work
1	2021_KMML_421750_1	For fabrication and supply of Condensing Column Cooler E204-205
2	2021_KMML_421746_1	For fabrication and supply of Reactor Cooling Tubes
3	2021_KMML_421739_1	For fabrication and supply of Dish End Bottom for Chlorinator
4	2021_KMML_421904_1	For fabrication and supply of Recycle Gas Cooler E324-325

Chavara 01.05.2021 — Sd/-, DGM(Mtls) For The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

5	2021_KMML_422168_1	Annual Maintenance Contract for Electric and Mechanical Hoist for the period 2021-22

Chavara 01.05.2021 — Sd/-, HOU(T) For The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

Mineral Seperation Unit
Kovilthottam, Chavara, Kollam-691583, Kerala
Ph:0476-2680047, 2680048, 2682727, Fax-0476 2686442
E-mail : **md@kmml.com, hodms@kmml.com**

6	2021_KMML_422137_1	For mannual collection of beach washings at Ponmana beach front, mechanized loading and transportation of the same in tippers to the premises of PCP II/M.S. Unit for an estimated quantity of mineral sand apx.97200 MT as per NCESS recomendations.

Any Amendment/Corrigendum for the above tenders shall be notified through above website & Company's website only.

Chavara 01.05.2021 — Sd/-, Asst. General Manager & HOD(MS) For The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

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EDITORIAL

"In an uncultivated plot of land, weeds will sprout and take over. ... Our lives are the same; to the extent that we cultivate and nourish our minds, our lives become very valuable

Sayadaw U Pandita

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

PANDEMIC TO EAT UP REVENUE, EXPECT DIVE IN GST MOP-UP

GST collections were pulsing with adrenalin in the past six months, but experts warn about an approaching ill-wind. March saw record collections at ₹1.24 lakh crore registering a double-digit growth and chances are April will retain the momentum crossing the psychological ₹1 lakh crore-mark, but the question is whether the trend can be sustained through May and thereafter. That's because top contributing states like Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are the most affected due to rising Covid-19 infections and have imposed lockdowns and restrictions. Estimates have already pencilled in a decline of 10-20% in May collections, as the localised lockdowns could hamper supply chains, consumption and demand.

April too saw states imposing lockdowns, but notwithstanding the curbs, GST E-way bills till April 25 touched ₹4.89 crore and are expected to cross ₹5.5 crore, indicating resilience. But extended restrictions and curfews till mid-May could be a drag on economic recovery. Still, some believe the ongoing disruption will be transient and states will have comfortable collections in FY22. Right now, this is only a hope and a steady decline will be harmful. There is a substantial portion of unallocated inter-state collections and as per GST rules, this must be shared equally between the Centre and states. If this happens, states' shortfall will narrow down to about ₹6,000 crore, estimates SBI Research. The Centre should act on this, even if its net revenue takes a knock, forcing it to walk on eggshells, yet again.

Regardless of the pace of collections, the next GST Council meeting will be keenly watched. The Council last met six months ago and states sought an emergency meeting demanding GST exemption on Remdesivir, Tocilizumab, Favipiravir and other Covid-19 related drugs, medical equipment like ventilators and others. Separately, a plea has also been filed in the Supreme Court seeking GST exemption on these items that are currently taxed at 12%. It's only logical that the Council invokes Section 11 of CGST Act and exercises the power of exemption from payment of GST for the greater good.

DEVASTATING FOR OLYMPIC ATHLETES

The month of April has been bad for so many of India's Olympic hopefuls and ones who have already punched their tickets. With Covid-19 ravaging across India, the athletes, just like hundreds of thousands of compatriots from other fields, have suffered big losses. Some of them have lost their parents. Others found out they cannot travel to Olympic qualifiers, rendering their struggle across the last five years almost meaningless. A few have tested positive for the virus, thus putting a halt on their training sessions. It's this class of athletes that stands to lose out a lot between now and the Olympics, purely from a competitive perspective.

With less than three months to go for the Olympics, a major chunk of the women's hockey team, athletes like Avinash Sable (3,000m steeplechase), a bunch of boxers and a few others were or have been pushed into isolation at a time when they will have just begun firming up plans to attack the business end of preparation before they leave for Tokyo. Qualifying for the Games is one thing. But to actually be competitive in Japan, there can be no let up. Every waking hour is usually spent thinking about the Games, and training and planning for it. But for the dozen or so athletes who have been laid low by the virus, all of that will have to be put in the backburner. Forget training trips to Europe and exposure events to the US, for the time being all of them will be confined to the four walls of their bedroom. Something that is absolutely unhealthy for their minds as well as their bodies for a number of reasons. They lose that edge, the muscles could become weak and it takes months to build whatever they lost within a week. This is even before you get into the actual health aspect. Their heart rates need to be constantly monitored and some of them could need dedicated training programmes after Covid to help them recover. Even then, some develop Covid-related complexities. Even if you are not positive, for a sportsperson, losing one day ahead of an event like the Olympics is lethal. Your preparation will be pushed back by a month. And that lingering doubt behind your back would start haunting you.

Had all institutions accountable to people, including the media and judiciary, done their duty by holding up a mirror to the government, the situation may not have become this bad

IF ONLY WE HAD NOT BOUGHT PROPAGANDA...

AMIT BANDRE

G S VASU

Editor, *The New Indian Express*
(vasu@newindianexpress.com)

There was an interesting conversation with a senior political leader early this week, which began with the possible outcome of state elections and then moved on to the pandemic raging across the country with people dropping dead like birds in the scorching summer. In the seven years that this government has been in power, it weathered many crises, most of them inflicted on people by way of unsound decisions. But this time, as the politician put it, the government/party is neither able to create a narrative nor build optics to counter the backlash.

There is, however, a fundamental problem in the way the Narendra Modi government is being hauled over the coals for its disastrous handling of the Covid second wave and that flows out of the expectations from this regime. Even assuming that this is a direct offshoot of the "cult culture" assiduously built over the years, to ignore the "collective responsibility" of such sections that have chosen to back the government without a whimper reflects only a partial understanding of the issue.

Not long ago, in January 2021, this government bragged to world leaders that India had set a shining example on how to beat the virus. People believed it. A month later, the BJP was effusive in its praise of Modi's leadership in dealing with the pandemic's first wave. We kept our faith in the resolution passed at the BJP meeting than on reality. A couple of weeks later, the health minister, who should have resigned a dozen times in the last one year, declared, "We are at the endgame of the corona crisis."

There were counter-warnings during the same period but none paid attention. As early as February 12, Mr Rahul Gandhi (lampooned by rival BJP as 'Pappu') cautioned that the threat from the virus was very much alive and urged the government to devise an action plan. In mid-March, he warned of the coming 'tsunami' and even lamented "nobody listens to me". But why should anyone listen to him? He knows nothing, was the collective disdain. Virologists and other experts, too, sounded alarm bells. Every country in the world faced second, third and even fourth waves and India cannot escape, they said. But we went ahead with the Kumbh Mela and elections. On a day when the country recorded over 2.5 lakh cases, we gloated over the "biggest ever rallies in Bengal". The narrative was pushed—cases are not going up in Bengal or Uttarakhand despite rallies and the Kumbh. Once both states started witnessing a rapid rise in cases, that spin was dropped. Instead, what are we told now? The second wave was expected, not the 'tsunami'. Amidst all the gloom and despair, it was funny to see top leaders and government supporters saying exactly what Rahul said two months ago. Who converted what could have been a second wave but a manageable one into an unmanageable tsunami leading to mass cremations? If only we were cautious instead of getting busy with just the Didi *hatao* campaign in Bengal; if only the Centre and the states had worked as a team and marshalled all possible resources learning from last year's experiences; if only we had placed orders for vaccines when other countries did. If only....the list is endless. As for optics, all one gets to see are pictures of long queues of ambulances, burning pyres at crematoria and patients with oxygen kits waiting outside hospitals for admission endlessly.

Valiant attempts are still being made to protect the carefully crafted image, but the facade is peeling off, layer by layer. The Centre sanctioned 162 oxygen plants last year itself but the states/hospitals blocked them was one excuse. The "best managed state" in the country—Uttar Pradesh—had been granted 14 such plants but only one was installed. Who is to blame? All we are doing now is file FIRs against people who complain or plead on social media for oxygen. Yes, corporate hospitals should have built their own captive oxygen plants. Having taken over the health sector since the pandemic struck, who and what stopped the Centre from issuing such a directive or insisting that states do it? For a government that digs archaic Acts to slap cases against dissenters, this would have been an easy task.

All these questions would have still meant nothing if the rants came from 'usual suspects' who could have been branded anti-nationals. But they are now coming from the middle and upper middle classes, the core constituency of the BJP. They believed demonetisation was indeed meant to rob the rich (we no longer read about how cash in circulation continues to go up) even as we ridiculed the best brains who bemoaned that it is the poor who get hurt by such measures. They believed that for all the ills plaguing this country, the one and only reason is the existence of minorities—recall the onslaught against the Tablighi Jamaat last year. For a section that always expects and received thus far all the privileges that a state accords (irrespective of the party) and perennially rues that but for reservations, they would have been somewhere else in the social and economic order, this wave has come as a rude shock. Gated communities are engulfed, the high and mighty—judges, bureaucrats, journalists and MPs—are unable to access beds or oxygen. The middle class suddenly has this sense of hurt, a feeling of being left orphaned/abandoned even as their savings are getting exhausted rapidly with hospitals jacking up the prices and every medicine/instrument sold two-three times the MRP.

> Gated communities are engulfed, the high and mighty are unable to access beds or oxygen. The middle class suddenly has a feeling of being left abandoned even as their savings are getting exhausted rapidly with hospitals jacking up the prices

We didn't care when thousands of migrants walked hundreds of kilometres last year to reach their homes in the face of an instant lockdown, nor were we shocked when the government's legal luminaries told the Supreme Court there was no evidence of such a situation. But when the same legal eagles tell the courts now "don't be a crybaby", we are horrified. Because the virus has now reached our doorstep, the cool confines from which we have been operating for a year. We are not used to begging for beds, oxygen or medicines. Our "Atmanirbharta" is no longer strong. Offensive as it may sound, it took a crisis of this magnitude to shake everyone out of the slumber and realise we are basically living in an unequal society and successive governments have abandoned the two most important duties assigned to them—health and education. As long as only the poor were denied health and education, we didn't care. Now, it is being denied to us as well, which is why we are no longer amused by tweets by BJP supporters that 3,000-plus deaths a day is negligible for a country of our size. This is what happens when citizens are reduced to mere statistics, when everyone knows for a fact that the deaths are at least 3-5X the official records, going by the sheer load at crematoria and long waiting periods.

Democracy is not just about winning elections. If only the mainstream media (which I am a part of), the judiciary and other institutions accountable to people (not government) did their duty by holding up the mirror, we may not have come to this situation and the ruling dispensations, too, would have done a better job, correcting course whenever they went wrong. As a colleague said, we have come to a stage where we "cast our votes and count the dead". There are too many nights when you go to bed with a feeling that "there is blood on our hands".

MYANMAR & CHINA'S NON-WAR MILITARY ACTIVITIES

VAIBHAVI PINGALE
Assistant Professor of Economics, Savitribai Phule Pune University

KUNAL TILAK
Founder of TTC Media Pvt Ltd

Since February 1, the attention of the world is drawn particularly to two countries, firstly to Myanmar due to the coup d'état and then to its ally China because of its close involvement in that nation through non-war military activities for a long period of time. It comes after months of increasing friction between the civilian government and the powerful military, the Tatmadaw, over alleged election irregularities. The overthrowing of the democratically elected government has led to mass protests.

China's intentions: Beijing has been suspected as a supporter of the coup. It established diplomatic relations in 1950 and supported Myanmar through thick and thin. Since the late 1980s, China has been the major source of military equipment and training for Myanmar (then Burma). In the past, it has supported Myanmar when it was facing full-throated criticism from other countries over its treatment of the Rohingya minority in Rakhine state.

The reason for this support can be traced in a translated document of People's Liberation Army's (PLA) prepared in 2013 and titled 'Science of Military Strategy' by China Aerospace Studies Institute with the US Department of Defense. Here, we can see that China identified the growing importance of 'non-war military activities' (NWMA). Though intended for overseas military expansion, they are now however undertaken through increasing economic and political influence and include a number of non-war or civil activities.

China's engagements with Myanmar have been consistent and supportive in various spheres such as politics, economy and cultural tie-ups. China has supported Myanmar from the time of the Communist Party to rule by the military and then the National League for Democracy (NLD). It is a major investor and an exporter of Myanmar's wealth of natural resources. Through an exchange of tourists, writers, culture, art and Buddhism, China has been expanding its influence over the citizens of Myanmar.

Rationale for China's support: Beijing had started sowing the seeds of NWMA in Myanmar since the beginning of the last decade by emerging as the largest trading partner and lender and the biggest Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) player. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Myanmar's Suu Kyi signed a bilateral agreement for their flagship project, the China Myanmar Economic Corridor. It stretches from China's Yunnan province to the Bay of Bengal coast of Myanmar as a part of Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) . It includes 38 large infrastructure projects, out of which Myanmar has made only three public.

Since the coup, there have been concerns about the safety of the pipelines, including that of a major one from Rakhine to Yunnan. During the ongoing demonstrations, to condemn Beijing's support to the coup, protestors are threatening to attack Chinese oil and gas pipeline projects. The people of Myanmar have mockingly called out Chinese officials on social media. Therefore, if using its economic and political influence in Myanmar, China encourages the establishment of democracy in that nation again, it can leverage its position to gain momentum for the remaining 35 infrastructure projects signed in the MoU.

> During the ongoing demonstrations in Myanmar, to condemn Beijing's support to the coup, protestors are threatening to attack Chinese oil and gas pipeline projects

China's so-called "non-interference principle" is being highly criticised by locals in Myanmar as well as other nations as Beijing has been against passing a resolution for restoration of democracy in the UN Security Council. With the US freezing $1 billion in assets belonging to the Myanmar government and several other countries officially condemning the coup or imposing sanctions against the perpetrators, China will have to do a balancing act in order to continue with the economic activities in Myanmar carried out by them in the past decade.

Future of the ties: The Chinese ambassador to the UN has suggested that the time has come to de-escalate the crisis through dialogue and showed the nation's readiness to engage with parties in Myanmar for the same. Chinese analysts do not agree with the accusations of their country's support for the coup and suggest that Beijing has no intention to do so as its economic interests are at risk.

The case for Myanmar is different due to fierce social opposition. Public pressure that Beijing faced led to suspension of projects such as the Myitsone hydropower dam and the Letpadaung copper mine. Since then, Beijing has understood the need for cooperation from the local people to complete its ambitious projects. Hence, learning from past experience, China should help in resolving the coup that is against the will of the people of Myanmar. Otherwise, it should be ready to face a similar kind of social opposition to BRI projects in the future.

Having a stable democracy in Myanmar is beneficial to China than a military-backed government. The latter poses security concerns and cannot provide a conducive business environment that the NLD can. In fact, it is only going to benefit China in the long run if there are democratic and fair elections in Myanmar. Further, this is an opportunity for China to gain a diplomatic achievement in a post-Covid world.

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MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Death leaves a void

The passing away of former Attorney-General Soli Sorabjee leaves a void as he served the judiciary with great distinction for several decades. He will be remembered for his forthright views on national issues.

CV Aravind, Bengaluru

Should we protest now?

Activists in Pandarampatti village near Thoothukudi are protesting the start of oxygen production in Sterlite. Would they still stick to this if they saw how people are suffering due to lack of oxygen?

P G Menon, Chennai

Lack of preparedness

How can we be assured about a good future with such shaky governance that lacks transparency and accountability? (*Covid and the administration of a tragedy*, Apr 30.) The severity of the second wave is partly due to the lack of preparedness.

Chitra Manjunath, Bengaluru

Poor decision-making

The author has thoroughly analysed the unpreparedness of India in tackling Covid. He has also highlighted the inefficiency in decision-making.

Narayani P, Mayiladuthurai

Not just PM's fault

It is unfortunate that the author has fixed all responsibility on the prime minister alone. Even countries with the most well-equipped health infrastructure have suffered due to the virus.

A M Chakravarty, Hyderabad

We were all complacent

Holding Prime Minister Narendra Modi responsible for the second wave and the subsequent tragedies is untenable. We were all complacent and what occurred was a catastrophe beyond our control.

K Jayanthi, Chennai

Common man suffers

This is with reference to *Why Kerala must avoid post-result chaos* (Apr 30). The Election Commission shirked its responsibility during polls and the common man now has to bear the brunt.

P K Sreevalsan, Kannur

No victory celebrations

As exit polls predict the return of the LDF in Kerala, victory celebrations seem inevitable on May 2. The EC has strictly banned such celebrations, but it remains to be seen how it will be implemented in the state levels.

K R Parvathy, Mysuru

Holding exams unwise

This is with reference to *Defer Andhra inter exams* (Apr 30). When the state is registering an alarming surge in Covid cases, holding exams is unwise. They are important for the future of students, but nothing ranks higher than life.

C Ghanshyam, Visakhapatnam

Vision, strategy, planning

This is with reference to *Growth & need for strategic planning* (Apr 29). The author has rightly highlighted that companies need vision, strategy and planning to grow.

Y Srinivas, Secunderabad

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

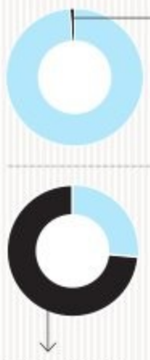
Yashwant Sinha @YashwantSinha
In these desperate times we Indians should make only one resolve, 'We shall neither forget nor forgive'

Narendra Modi @narendramodi
Chaired a meeting of empowered groups. These empowered groups are looking into various aspects of COVID relief

INDIA'S COVID-19 TALLY

3,498
Deaths in last 24 hours

2,08,330
Cumulative deaths recorded in India



1.11%
National mortality rate

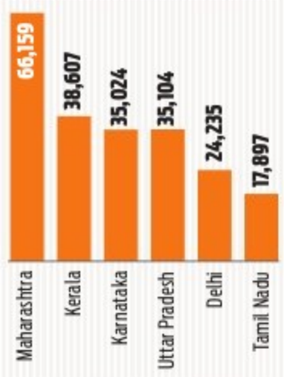
73.49%
Share of 11 states — Maharashtra, Kerala, UP, K'taka, TN, Delhi, AP, C'Garh, Bengal, Rajasthan & Gujarat in total deaths

MOST DEATHS (24 HRS)

3,85,452
New cases in last 24 hours

76.75%
Share of 10 states — Maharashtra, Kerala, UP, K'taka, TN, Delhi, AP, C'Garh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Gujarat in total cases

HIGHEST DAILY NEW CASES



31,70,228
India's total active caseload

85,414
Rise in active caseload in last 24 hours

Centre tries to pass the Covid buck to states

Centre clueless on the eve of nationwide rollout of vaccinating the 18-44 age group

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

THE Centre on Friday appeared to be shifting blame on states for the explosive rise in Covid19 cases, maintaining that it had been in touch with districts despite drop in infections since September last year. In a press conference on Covid19 status in the country, the Union ministry of health and family welfare said that the second wave of Covid-19 is five times the previous peak in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, 4.5 times in Chhattisgarh and 3.3 times in Delhi. The Centre said the spike was the fallout of letting the guard down despite its repeated reminders.

"Karnataka, Kerala, Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Odisha are not only reporting higher peaks but also high Covid-19 case growth trajectory," said Lav Agrawal, joint secretary in the ministry. "In the second wave, the rate of rise in infection has been rapid which has put immense strain on health infrastructure."

Agarwal however ducked a question when specifically asked whether the Centre had issued specific advisory against organising Kumbh Mela and election rallies.

According to the Centre, the second wave trends have been similar the world over where the second surge has seen the higher number of infections and deaths as compared to the first one. Agarwal also said that the Union government is also closely coordinating with states regarding the availability and supply of medical oxygen and said that 8,593 MT of medical oxygen has been allocated to 23 States. Officials said that about 9,000 MT medical oxygen is being produced in the country and there is no shortage of this crucial supply for pandemic management.

They however added that states have been advised to undertake an oxygen consumption audit in all hospitals including private hospital—some of which were found offering oxygen as part of home care packages for mild Covid19 cases. Judicious use of oxygen is advised, it emphasised.

> **Karnataka, Kerala, Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Odisha are not only reporting higher peaks but also high Covid-19 case growth trajectory**
>
> Health ministry

Meanwhile, on the eve of the major Covid-19 vaccination expansion, the Union health ministry appeared clueless on the initiative and said that the vaccines for the 18-44 age group may be available in states that have coordinated with vaccine manufacturers. The statement by comes as several states expressed doubts over the start of the inoculation drive from Saturday. Owing to vaccine shortage, many states have even expressed inability to continue vaccinating the priority group (above 45 years).

Ease local pain points, PM tells ministers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi chaired a meeting of the Council of Ministers on Friday amid rising cases of coronavirus in the country. They discussed the ways to manage the pandemic and ensure availability of essential supplies. This was the first meeting of the council of ministers since the beginning of the second Covid wave in the country.

The PM said that all arms of the Government are working unitedly and rapidly to deal with the situation. He also urged the Ministers to stay in

touch with people of their respective regions, help them and keep getting their feedback. The Prime Minister also stressed the need to ensure that issues at the local level are promptly identified and addressed.

In the meeting, PM Narendra Modi assured that all arms of the government are working unitedly and rapidly to deal with the situation,

At the virtual meeting, NITI Aayog member VK Paul addressed the subject of Covid-19 management through a presentation. Followed by a briefing by Union ministers Piyush Goyal and Mansukh Mandaviya who spoke to their cabinet colleagues about the availability of oxygen and antiviral drugs. PM Modi also urged the Ministers to stay in touch with people of their respective regions and help them. He asked them to keep registering their feedback.

The council of Ministers stressed the importance of Covid appropriate behaviour-wearing a mask, keeping physical distance of 6 feet and washing hands frequently.

The efforts by the Central Government in coordination with the states towards building up infrastructure in the form of ramping up hospital beds, PSA oxygen facilities etc, resolving issues in production, storage and transport of Oxygen, tackling matters relating to availability of essential medicines were briefed in the meeting. The measures being taken to further ramp up their supply and availability were also pointed out.

Sputnik V flying in today

SPUTNIK

5 million
Doses of Russia-made Sputnik V coming by June

1.5-2L
Ready-made doses to land in early May

3rd
Vaccine after AstraZeneca's Covishield and Bharat Biotech's Covaxin to be approved for use in India

- Sputnik V is effective against even mutant forms of the virus
- 60-70% of Sputnik produced in India

REMDESIVIR

4.5L
Vials to come from Gilead Sciences and its Egypt based partner till July

1,00,000
Vials to come in the next one or two days

- Apart from Eva Pharma, Gilead has signed a voluntary licensing agreement with seven Indian companies
- This will ramp up production to over 10 million vials a month from the current 3.8 million vials

10,000
Vials to come from Egypt-based Eva Pharma every 15 days, which will ramped up to 50,000 vials every fortnight

75,000
Vials reached on Friday

JINPING WRITES TO MODI

Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday sent a message of sympathy to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and offered help in the fight against the coronavirus pandemic. "Chinese President #XiJinping sends a message of sympathy to Indian PM Narendra Modi @ narendramodi today. The Chinese side stands ready to strengthen cooperation with the Indian side in fighting the pandemic and provide support," Chinese ambassador to India Sun Weidong tweeted. In a letter to Modi, Xi said that humanity is a community with a shared future and that countries around the world can win only through solidarity and cooperation

26,000 Ventilators | **3,800** Tonnes medical supplies

- China customs is giving expedited clearance to transport oxygen to India
- Chinese provincial governments, NGOs and individual companies are also raising anti-epidemic material that India needs urgently

Experts differ on efficacy of CoWin portal

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA
@ New Delhi

WHILE adopting a decentralised and liberalised policy for Covid-19 vaccination, the Union government maintained that CoWin portal — a software tool guiding the initiative — would remain central to the inoc ulation drive. However, experts are divided on the emphasis laid on CoWin, with some saying that focus on it creates an urban bias in access and might restrict flexibility of the states. Those in support of the portal say it would help create a centralised database.

"All vaccination would be part of the national vaccination programme, and are mandated to follow all protocols such as being captured on CoWIN platform, linked to AEFI (Adverse Event Following Immunisation) reporting and all other prescribed norms," the Centre told the states in a document issued last week.

An economist with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai, R Ramakumar, argued for greater autonomy to states insofar as vaccination was concerned. "CoWin ties states to a centralised platform and makes access to smartphones and internet central in determining access to vaccines, which creates an urban bias in access and also does not allow for a supply-led campaign mode of vaccine distribution. It limits states to a demand-led mode of vaccine distribution," he told TNIE.

However, some specialists stressed merits of a centralised database for vaccination. "Its advantage includes tracking of infections among the vaccinated along with reinfections and a mechanism against diversion of designated doses to the private market or black market," said public health researcher Oommen C Kurian.

Navy ships to bring O_2 from Bahrain

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE Indian Navy launched its Operation Samudra Setu-II on Friday to augment the ongoing national mission for meeting the oxygen requirement.

The naval warships deployed under the mission will undertake shipment of liquid Oxygen filled cryogenic containers and associated medical equipment. Providing details of the drive, an Indian Navy Spokesperson said: "Two ships — INS Kolkata and INS Talwar — have entered port of Manama, Bahrain for embarking and transporting 40MT of liquid oxygen to Mumbai."

INS Jalashwa is enroute to Bangkok and INS Airavat to Singapore for similar missions, added the Spokesperson

Last year, Indian Navy had launched Operation Samudra Setu as part of the Vande Bharat Mission and repatriated approx 4000 (3992) stranded and distressed Indian citizens from Maldives, Sri Lanka and Iran.

A special 76-member Naval Medical Contingent being airlifted from five Naval hospitals to Gujarat to tackle a shortage of professionals there

Within the country Indian Navy deployed its Medical Contingent from its three Commands to Ahmedabad to bolster the availability of trained manpower in the 900-bed Dhanvantari Covid Hospital. The hospital put up by the Gujarat government required urgent infusion of trained personnel. "A 76 member Naval Medical Contingent comprising 10 Medical Officers, including a Surgeon and an Anesthetist, 12 Nursing Officers, 34 Paramedics and 20 Battle Field Nursing Assistants (BFNA) was air lifted from five Naval hospitals." Navy Informed.

Meanwhile, the DRDO handed over 75 oxygen cylinders to the Delhi government to help it augment oxygen supplies to various hospitals. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the DRDO is arranging oxygen cylinders to address requirements of various hospitals.

"To meet the urgent requirement of oxygen in various parts of the country, the @DRDO_India is arranging big size oxygen cylinders for fulfilling requirements of different hospitals," Singh tweeted.

Armed forces get financial powers to fight pandemic

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

DEFENCE Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday invoked special provisions to grant Emergency Financial Powers to the Armed Forces to shore up their efforts to tide over the Covid-19 situation in the country.

These powers will help Formation Commanders establish and operate quarantine facilities/hospitals and undertake procurement/repair of equipment/items/material/stores, besides provisioning various services and works required to support the efforts against the pandemic. The select officers would hold the powers for three months (May 1 to July 31). These are in addition to the emergency powers delegated to Medical Officers of the Armed Forces last week.

Spokesperson of the Ministry of Defence said the Vice Chiefs of the Armed Forces, including Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC) and General Officer Commanding-in-Chiefs and equivalent ranks in all three services have been given full financial powers. Corps Commanders/Area Commanders have been delegated powers up to ₹50 lakh per case and Division Commanders/Sub Area Commanders and equivalents have been delegated up to ₹20 lakh per case.

STOP BICKERING, COOPERATE TO SAVE LIVES, SC TELLS AAP

KANU SARDA @ New Delhi

IN view of the concerns that Delhi may not have been allocated enough oxygen to battle the Covid-19 crisis that is unfolding in the national capital, the Supreme Court on Friday urged the Centre to do whatever can be done to save lives.

The court also asked the AAP government to adopt a cooperative attitude in getting essential medicines and oxygen supply to patients. "Please adopt a cooperative attitude at the time of a human crisis. A spirit of dialogue. Politics is during elections and not at the present situation," a bench led by Justice DY Chandrachud told the Delhi government counsel.

While highlighting the importance of Delhi, the bench said: "Delhi represents the nation and there is hardly any ethnically Delhite. You have to push through since you have to save lives Mr Solicitor. You have a special responsibility as the Centre," he remarked.

Appearing for the Centre, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta informed the Court that Delhi was given 490 MT of oxygen, although it has now demanded 700 MT.

> **We don't want lives to be lost in this political bickering... interact with the Centre...ask your Chief Secretary to speak with the Solicitor General**
>
> Supreme Court

Justice Chandrachud pointed out that there is a 123% increase in demand for oxygen when it comes to Delhi.

"Delhi shows the demand had increased where there was 123 percent increase and revised need was 700 MT and then you say you allocated 490 MT? ... If there is a 200 MT deficit then you should give that straight away to Delhi. Centre has an important responsibility as far as citizens of Delhi is concerned. You have said surplus is there in the steel sector. Then use that and supply to Delhi. Between today and Monday there will be 500 deaths in our hands," Justice Chandrachud observed.

Mehta pointed out that the Centre has to walk a tight rope when it comes to allocating resources between States. At this, the bench said. "As a national authority which has a responsibility to the national capital you are answerable to the citizens."

"We have told the Centre how it has a special responsibility towards Delhi...but we need to send a message to the highest levels of your government that in this humanitarian crisis we don't want lives to be lost in political bickering," the Bench told senior advocate Rahul Mehra who represented the Delhi government.

EXPRESS READ

Treat journalists as frontliners: Guild

New Delhi: The Editors Guild of India demanded that journalists be given priority along with other frontliners amid the rising toll of journalists succumbing to Covid. The Press Council of India appealed the Centre to help afflicted journalists with medical help. The guild observed while more than 100 journalists have died since last year's lockdown, 52 journalists have died in April this year, of whom many were not insured.

Frontliner insurance scheme extended

New Delhi: Insurance scheme for frontline health workers has been extended for another six months, the government said on Friday after PM Modi chaired a meeting to review the functioning of different empowered groups. Modi has also asked officials to explore how volunteers from civil society can be utilised to lessen the pressure on healthcare sector, as the government looks to further step up its response.

NO BOTTLENECK

A green corridor created by the Delhi Police for ambulances as cases continued to surge in New Delhi | PARVEEN NEGI

Jaishankar speaks with Blinken on supplies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

On a day the US promised medical supplies landed in India, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar held a telephonic conversation with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Friday.

The conversation focused on India's requirements of medical supplies. Jaishankar said his discussions with Blinken focussed on India's requirements. "Reviewed the flow of equipment and material from the US. Highlighted the importance of strengthening oxygen supply, expanding vaccine production and increasing Remdesivir supply. Appreciated the forthcoming response of the US in this regard," he said.

The supplies were promised on a day the US president addressed the Congress and said that US was leading the world in the fight against the pandemic. It had earlier stalled supply of raw materials for vaccines to India, with focus on domestic self-sufficiency first.

BIHAR CHIEF SECY DIES

Bihar's chief secretary Arun Kumar Singh on Friday died of multiple organ failure, days after he tested positive for Covid-19. Singh was a 1985-batch IAS officer and was appointed as the chief secretary on February 27

2 KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENT IN JABALPUR

	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	39	25	Mumbai	33	28
Bhopal	40	24	Panaji	34	28
Jaipur	38	27	Patna	37	22
Amritsar	38	23	Lucknow	38	23
Chennai	33	27	Port Blair	31	27
Kolkata	37	27	Imphal	29	17
Srinagar	25	12	Chandigarh	38	24

CRIPPLING SHORTAGE

No vaccines left, J&K to pause inoculation drive from today

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

KASHMIR is facing a severe shortage of vaccines as not new supplies have been delivered in the last few days. The situation is so dire that authorities said the state will suspend vaccination for even those above 45 years of age on Saturday, if fresh supplies are not received from the Serum Institute.

Authorities say all supplies have been exhausted and no fresh stock has been delivered in the last few days.

"Whatever supplies we got, we have exhausted them all. We had a few thousand vaccines doses left, and these were administered to people today (Friday). As of now, we don't have any vaccine doses available for Saturday," an official said.

Only 13,407 people were vaccinated in the Valley on Friday as against more than 31,000 in Jammu region.

Officials are hopeful of receiving about 1.84 lakh doses of Covisheild vaccine from the Serum Institute soon.

"In case we don't receive the supply by tomorrow morning, then we will have to suspend the vaccination drive across Kashmir tomorrow," he said.

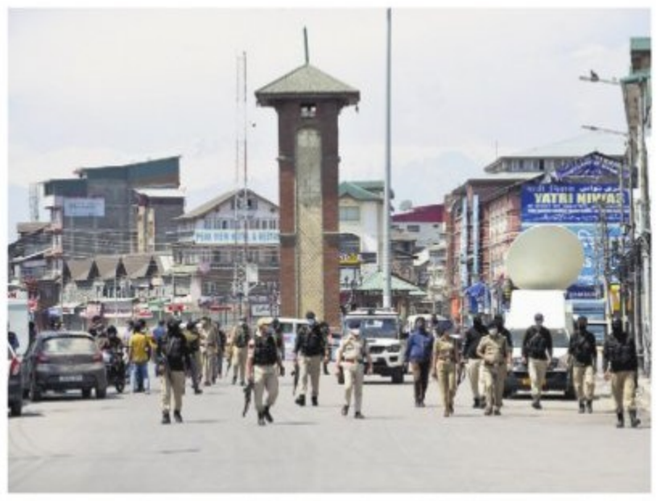
At present, there are 927 vaccination centres in the Valley, where the vaccines are being administered to people above the age of 45.

However, since Thursday people have been returning without getting vaccinated due to the shortage. Some hospitals in Srinagar have put up notice saying vaccines are out of stock.

With even those in the 45+ category struggling to get vaccinated, the government has decided not to begin vaccinating those over the age of 18 from Saturday.

330 arrested for violating lockdown

Police have arrested over 300 people and imposed fine on nearly 10,000 others for allegedly violating Covid-29 related standard operating procedures in Kashmir over the past 11 days



Policemen patrol Srinagar's Lal Chowk area during the lockdown on Friday | PTI

WB shuts malls, restaurants as cases mount

All gatherings prohibited, bazars to remain open for limited hours; the state records highest single-day toll of 98

PRANAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

AMID a surge in Covid-19 cases, the West Bengal government on Friday ordered that all shopping malls, cinemas, gyms, spas, beauty parlors, sports complexes, swimming pools, bars, and restaurants in the state be shut for an indefinite period with immediate effect.

The government has restricted the operations of other commercial establishments other than those providing essential services.

The government has also prohibited all social, cultural, academic, and entertainment-related gatherings.

"Bazars will remain open only during 7-10 am in the morning and 3-5 pm in the afternoon," the order said. Medical shops, shops selling medical equipment, grocery, etc will function as usual.

West Bengal recorded 17,411 fresh Covid-19 positive cases on Thursday. The state also registered its highest single-day Covid-19 deaths with 96 people succumbing to the disease, the health department said in a bulletin.

Of the fresh fatalities, 28 were reported from Kolkata and 20 from North 24 Parganas district, the bulletin said. In the last 24 hours, 13,932 recoveries were registered in West Bengal.

Activities related to the electoral counting processes and victory rallies will be guided by the Election Commission protocols, the order said.

"The restrictions will be in place till the administration reviews the situation again," a senior official said. Any person violating these measures will be liable to be proceeded against as per the provisions of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, besides action under Section 188 of the IPC.

The West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education (WBCHSE) on Friday said that board exams for Class 12 students, in a departure from the norm, would be held at their respective schools in June, on account of rise in Covid cases.

(Left) A medic takes swab sample from a man for Covid-19 testing by Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation at APMC Grain Market in Mumbai on Friday; (right) A notice placed outside a vaccination centre in Mumbai on Friday saying vaccines are out of stock | PTI

Glimmer of hope in Mumbai, but four other Maha cities seeing infection surge

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

WHILE Mumbai has seen a slight dip in the number of new Covid-19 cases, four other major cities in Maharashtra are seeing a surge in the number of positive cases.

Five major cities account for more than 50% of Covid-19 cases in Maharashtra. They are: Pune, Nagpur, Thane, Nasik and Mumbai.

The state reported 62,919 new Covid-19 cases on Friday.

According to Maharashtra's health department, Pune has the highest share of active cases at 15.15%. Nagpur accounts for 11.19% of the state's active cases. About 10.75% are in Thane and 10.20% in Mumbai. Nasik accounts for 7.59% of the state's active cases.

Between April 19 and 25, the Sindhudurg district in the Konkan region reported the highest mortality rate of 3.66%. Nanded in Marathwada recorded a 3.46% mortality rate. It was 2.46% in Osmanabad, 2.43% in Solapur, 2.14% in Amaravati. The average mortality rate in Maharashtra is 0.94%.

POSITIVITY RATE (%)

Date	Maharashtra	Mumbai
April 25	22.96	15.31
April 26	21.95	14.85
April 27	23.66	14.03

Last week, the highest positivity rate was reported in Palghar—36.03%. Gadchiroli reported 35.25%, Nasik 35.17%, Nagpur 34.17 %, Oamanabad 35.43% in Oamanabad. The average positivity rate in Maharashtra was 25.59%.

Mumbai, once the state's corona hotspot has seen a dip in its positivity rate in the last few days. If on April 1, the positivity rate was 20.85%, by April 29, it has come down to 9.94%. More than 40,000 Covid tests are done every day in Mumbai. Out of them, between 4,000 and 5,000 tests return positive results.

No additional restrictions, says Uddhav

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mumbai

MAHARASHTRA Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray said on Friday that the current restrictions imposed in the state have helped contain the spread of Covid-19 and that his government is not planning to impose any additional measures.

"Otherwise, the active cases in Maharashtra would have gone up to 10 lakh against the seven lakh today," Thackeray said about the current restrictions.

We are hopeful that soon there will be a decline in the number of active cases. We are better prepared for the third wave of the virus. For the second wave, we were prepared, but no one told us that it will spread much faster and will be deadlier than the first wave," the chief minister said.

Thackeray said Maharashtra generates 1,200 metric tonnes of oxygen daily while the present demand for oxygen is now 1,700 metric tonnes. "We are fulfilling the shortage of oxygen by bringing from other states. We are also planning to start many oxygen plants," Thackeray said.

Haridwar's positivity rate of 5.2% despite widespread Covid testing baffles experts

VINEETH UPADHYAY @ Dehradun

DESPITE conducting the highest number of tests, Uttarakhand's Haridwar district has reported a positivity rate of 5.2%, which is the lowest among all districts in the state. Between April 23 and 29, a total of 1,44,664 tests were conducted in Haridwar. Results of about 7,584 turned out to be positive. During this period, Nainital district recorded a positivity rate of 25.2%, followed by Dehradun (21.6%), Tehri (21%), Udham Singh Nagar (20.7%), Uttarkashi (19.5%), Chamoli (19.2%), Pauri (18.6%), Champawat (17.8%), Almora (14.6%), Pithoragarh, Rudraprayag with 13.8% each and Bageshwar (10.1%). Haridwar's low positivity rate has baffled experts, who are now starting to question the quality of the data.

More than 90 lakh pilgrims had visited Haridwar recently for the Kumbh Mela. Between April 1 and 29, the district reported 16,519 positive cases after testing 5.91 lakh samples at a positivity rate of just 2.8%. In contrast, the remaining 12 districts of Uttarakhand have reported an average positivity rate of 13.8%.

"Authorities must share what measures they are Implementing," Anoop Nautiyal, whose Social Development for Communities Foundation has been analysing the Covid data since March 2020, said.

Meanwhile, the number of active cases in Uttarakhand reached 55,886 with 5654 new positive cases detected on Friday.

The state's overall positivity rate was 4.89%. The recovery rate stands at 66.69%.

The state has vaccinated a total of 16,60,499 people out of whom 4,10,918 have gotten the second dose too. Officials said the state will soon receive 1,22,108 more doses of the Covishield vaccine and 42,370 doses of Covaxin to start vaccinating all adults.

Didi warns TMC candidates to look out for fraud on counting day

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

WEST Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday urged Trinamool Congress candidates, who contested in the recently concluded eight-phase Assembly elections, to keep a close watch on the counting process, especially in the constituencies in the northern part of the state.

It must be remembered that the BJP had won seven of the eight Lok Sabha seats in north Bengal in 2019. The eight Lok Sabha seats account for 54 Assembly segments and going by the 2019 results, the BJP was leading in 35 of them.

Chief counting agents of the candidates also participated in the virtual meeting called by the CM. "The chief minister said every vote is important this year as it would decide the fate of the party in each Assembly constituency," one of the TMC candidates who attended the meeting said. "She said the BJP and their counting agents, who will be working under the Election Commission, will try to adopt all means to change the result in favour of the saffron camp if they find the mandate is not in their favour," the candidate said. The TMC feels the results would be too close in many constituencies of north Bengal. The party feels the BJP would try to win these seats by applying tricks during the counting.

> She (Mamata) said the BJP and their counting agents will try to adopt all means to change the result in favour
>
> A Trinamool Congress candidate

EXPRESS READ

Two held for selling fake Remdesivir

Ahmedabad: A day after nabbing five persons with 90 vials of Remdesivir, the police in Gujarat's Vadodara city have caught two more people allegedly involved in repackaging an antibiotic medicine as Remdesivir, an official said on Friday. After recovering 90 injections from a gang of five, the police got the vials tested in the laboratory and found that they were all fake, Vadodara police commissioner Shamsher Singh said. A primary probe has revealed that as many as 1,100 duplicate Remdesivir injections, prepared by them.

One-year jail for 8 Naga women over humiliating kangaroo court convict

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

A court in Nagaland has sentenced eight women to one year in jail for humiliating a woman after a judgment against her was passed by a kangaroo court in 2018.

The Court of Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Tuensang also ordered a fine of ₹3,000 against the eight, under various Sections of the Indian Penal Code. The victim was punished by a kangaroo court over violation of customary laws relating to extra-marital affairs.

Enraged that the victim had an extramarital affair, the eight women chopped off her hair and paraded her naked.

The court observed that the villagers had taken the matter into their hands and meted out "inhumane" justice to her. "This is a case where the village folk asserting the so-called rights given unto them by the customary law, outraged the modesty of the victim in the most barbaric fashion," the court said. The Nagas are governed by customary laws. The state enjoys special provision under Article 371 A of the Constitution which says, "No Act of the Parliament in respect of religious or social practices of the Nagas and Naga customary law and procedure shall apply to Nagaland unless the state Assembly so decides by a resolution." However, the court observed that the law and order situation in the society would break down completely if all villages started invoking customary laws that "uncultured civilisations practiced".

According to the convicts, they were acting on the basis of a resolution adopted by their village to punish anyone found guilty of indulging in adultery.

PDS shops told to drop biometric authentication

Amid an unprecedented rise in Covid-19 cases, the Jharkhand government has decided to do away with biometric authentication at the Public Distribution System shops. Instead, a One-Time-Password will be sent to the registered mobile numbers of the beneficiaries. According to a letter issued by the State Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department, all PDS shops have been asked not to use the biometric authentication system till May 31. The letter clearly states that no beneficiary shall be asked to use their thumb impression to authenticate the biometric data during this period. This is to help avoid the spread of the coronavirus.

RANCHI DIARY

MUKESH RANJAN
Our correspondent in Jharkhand
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Former BJP state president dies of Covid-19

Former member of parliament and one-time BJP state president Laxman Gilua died on Thursday of Covid-19. The 57-year-old was undergoing treatment at the Tata Motors Hospital in Jamshedpur after testing positive. He breathed his last at 2.10 am. He was admitted to the hospital last week. According to hospital authorities, his condition had progressively worsened. He was administered Remdesivir on April 23, but it did nothing to improve his condition. Jharkhand reported a record 149 Covid-19 deaths in a single day, pushing the toll to 2,395. While the tally climbed to 2,21,489 with 8,075 fresh cases, a health department official said on Friday. Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Thursday received the first dose of the Covid vaccine and appealed to the people to get inoculated.

25-year-old trampled to death by wild tuskers

A 25-year-old-man was trampled to death by a herd of wild tuskers as he was trying to chase them away with the help of a burning torch. One of the elephants attacked Ajay Sharma, following which he died. On being informed, the forest officials reached the spot and reviewed the situation. A sum of `70,000 was handed over to the family of the deceased as compensation. The villagers claimed that the herd of elephants has been roaming around in the area for the last few weeks. They claim the elephants have killed several people previously.

Cops chalk out plan to curb witch-hunting

In a first-of-its-kind initiative, the Jharkhand police have chalked out a plan of action to curb incidents of witch-hunting. As per the plan, local Pahans (exorcists) will be identified and made to furnish personal bonds, promising they will not engage in witch-hunting. Local Superintendents of Police (SPs) have been appointed as nodal officers. They have been asked to identify areas, which are witch-hunting hotspots and review the situation regularly. According to the order issued by Police Headquarters, all the SPs have been asked to make the local Pahans or Bhagat furnish personal bonds.

FRANCE REPORTS 1ST CASE OF VARIANT SWEEPING INDIA

Paris: France has announced its first confirmed cases of the virus variant that is sweeping over India, just as the French president outlined a national reopening plan after six months of virus restrictions.

TURKEY GRANTS EMERGENCY USE OF SPUTNIK VAX

Ankara: Turkish authorities have granted Russia's Sputnik V vaccine approval for its emergency use in the country, Health Minister Fahrettin Koca announced on Friday.

STAMPEDE AT JEWISH RELIGIOUS CELEBRATION IN ISRAEL KILLS 45

Some people slipped on stairs, creating a 'human avalanche' that crushed many, says probe

JERUSALEM

AT LEAST 45 people were killed and over 150 others injured after a stampede broke out at a religious festival attended by tens of thousands of ultra-Orthodox Jews in Israel, medical officials said on Friday.

The mass gathering was organised to celebrate the Lag B'Omer, an annual religious holiday marked with all-night bonfires, prayer and dancing, at Mount Meron. The town is the site of the tomb of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai, a second-century sage, and is considered to be one of the holiest sites in the Jewish world.

Tens of thousands of ultra-orthodox Jews participated in the tragic event on Thursday night at the tomb of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai, making it the largest event held in Israel since the coronavirus pandemic broke out last year.

A preliminary police investigation revealed that some of the attendees slipped on the stairs, creating a "human avalanche" that crushed members of the crowd.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the incident "a terrible disaster", promised a thorough investigation, and said that Sunday would be declared a day of national mourning.

"We will carry out a thorough, serious and in-depth investigation in order to ensure that such a disaster does not recur. I would like to declare Sunday as a day of national mourning. Let us all join in the grief of the families and pray for the wellbeing of the injured," he tweeted.

"I must also point out that there was quick rescue work here by the police, the rescue and security forces, and we are profoundly grateful to them; they prevented a far worse disaster," he said after visiting the site. President of Israel Reuven Rivlin lit 45 memorial candles at the President's Residence in memory of the victims. "In memory of the 45 people who lost their lives in the Har Meron disaster. May their memories be a blessing," he wrote in a tweet.

Israel recently eased mask-wearing requirements in open areas and other restrictions after the success of a massive vaccination drive that significantly brought down coronavirus-related cases.

The resulting "normalcy", with limitations, saw rejoicing crowds across Israel on Thursday evening with youngsters, especially school children, coming out in large numbers in open spaces putting bonfires that accompanied the Lag BaOmer festivities.

Firefighters worked to free the trapped, supported by Israeli Air Force helicopters and rescue services. Police were trying to clear the tens of thousands who attended the event from the area.

A police official said that dozens of participants in a concert had "slipped", falling on those below them while walking along a slippery walkway and causing a crushing domino effect. Videos posted on social media showed chaotic scenes as Ultra-Orthodox men clambered through gaps in sheets of torn corrugated iron to escape the crush, as police and paramedics tried to reach the wounded. Bodies lay on stretchers in a corridor, covered in foil blankets. "It happened in a split second; people just fell, trampling each other. It was a disaster," a witness said. *PTI*

Mourners carry the body of Rabbi Eliezer Goldberg, who died in the stampede during Lag B'Omer celebrations at Mt Meron in northern Israel, at his funeral in Jerusalem on Friday | AP/PTI

> We will carry out a thorough, serious and in-depth investigation in order to ensure that such a disaster does not recur. I would like to declare Sunday as a day of national mourning
>
> Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel PM

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visits the site of the stampede in Meron, on Friday | AFP

ASIA MATTERS

PAKISTAN

Lockdown will be imposed if Covid surge continues, says min

Islamabad: The Pakistan government would be forced to impose lockdown in cities if the surge in the Covid-19 cases continued, a senior minister has said, as the total number of coronavirus infections in the country reached 820,823. The death toll from the deadly virus in the country reached 17,811 after 131 more fatalities were reported in the last 24 hours, while 5,112 new COVID-19 infections were reported, pushing the national tally to 820,823, according to the Ministry of National Health Services. The ministry reported that the Covid-19 positivity rate was 10.41 per cent. Planning Minister Asad Umar warned that the government would be forced to lockdown the cities if the positivity rate crossed 15 per cent. "The challenge is not over and infact is continuing to increase. The need for precautions and following sop's is vital at this point in time," he said in a tweet.

SINGAPORE

Hosp locks down 4 wards, sends 76 staffers on leave

One of the largest multi-disciplinary hospitals in Singapore on Friday locked down four wards and sent 76 staffers on leave following the detection of a cluster of COVID-19 cases there. Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) chief executive officer Dr Eugene Soh said the growing cluster is of particular concern and the hospital is "acting fast with a three-pronged approach" to contain and control the infections, while securing the safety of patients and staff members.

JAPAN

Japan shipowner asks cargo owners to share Suez damage cost

The Japanese owner of a massive container ship that blocked the Suez Canal for nearly a week, halting billions of dollars in maritime commerce, is asking owners of the freight it is carrying to share the cost of the damages demanded by Egyptian authorities. Shoei Kisen Kaisha Ltd said on Friday that it has asked freight owners to share the damages in a deal known as a general average declaration. The damage sharing scheme is often used in maritime accidents covered by insurance.The company said it has notified a number of the owners of the approximately 18,000 containers on the ship to assume part of the damages demand, estimated at about $916 million. The shipowner said earlier this month that it has been negotiating with Egyptian authorities over the compensation demand.

Pfizer, BioNTech seek Covid vaccine authorisation for kids

LONDON

PFIZER Inc and BioNTech have submitted a request to the European drug regulator for the approval of their coronavirus vaccine to be extended to include children 12 to 15 years old, in a move that could offer younger and less at-risk populations in Europe access to the shot for the first time.

In a statement on Friday, the two pharmaceuticals said their submission to the European Medicines Agency is based on an advanced study in more than 2,000 adolescents that showed their vaccine to be safe and effective. The children will continue to be monitored for longer-term protection and safety for another two years. BioNTech and Pfizer have previously requested their emergency use authorisation with the US Food and Drug Administration also be extended to children 12 to 15 years old.

German Health Minister Jens Spahn welcomed the news that the vaccine might soon get the green light for older children.

"This can make a further real difference to our vaccine campaign, if approval is granted," he said on the sidelines of a visit to a vaccine manufacturing plant in the German town of Reinbek. *AP*

ITALY FINALLY MEETS 500,000 DAILY VACCINATION TARGET

ROME: Italy has for the first time inoculated more than 500,000 people in a day, meeting a key coronavirus vaccinations target, the government said on Friday. Authorities initially hoped to reach the milestone by mid-April, but pushed back the objective as supply shortages stymied immunisation efforts across Europe.

EXPRESS READ

Kidnappers in Haiti release 9 people

Port-Au-Prince (Haiti): Kidnappers in Haiti have released five priests, two nuns and two other people who had been held for nearly three weeks, Roman Catholic authorities said on Friday. The France-based Society of Priests of St James, which runs missions in Haiti and Brazil, issued a statement expressing "their joy and our great satisfaction to find them safe and sound". Ten people were kidnapped on April 11 as they travelled to Ganthier, a community east of the capital of Port-au-Prince.

125 Europe-bound kids rescued: UN

Cairo: A total of 125 Europe-bound children were rescued at sea this week by Libyan authorities off the Mediterranean coast, the United Nations child welfare agency said on Friday, adding that most were brought to detention centres. The children, fleeing war and poverty across the perilous maritime route to Europe, included 114 unaccompanied minors, UNICEF added in a statement.

Mask prank: Two ordered off Bali

Denpasar (Indonesia): A US-based YouTuber and a Russian influencer were ordered off Indonesia's resort island of Bali on Friday after recording themselves defying mandatory mask-wearing with some imaginative makeup. Clips of the video created by Josh Paler Lin and Leia Se and posted two weeks ago show the two duping supermarket guards with a painted surgical mask after they were refused entry because Se was unmasked. Though first-time violators of Bali's mask-wearing rule face fines for foreigners and deportation after a second offence, the police wanted them removed off the island immediately.

RETALIATORY ACTION

Russia blacklists eight European Union officials

MOSCOW

RUSSIA on Friday blacklisted eight officials from the European Union in retaliation for EU sanctions over the imprisonment of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny.

The Russian list includes European Parliament President David Sassoli and Vera Jourova, the vice-president of the European Commission for values and transparency.

The Russian Foreign Ministry accused the EU of trying to punish Moscow for its "independent foreign and domestic policies" and of trying to contain its development with "unlawful restrictions". It particularly referred to the EU sanctions slapped on six Russian officials in March. "All our proposals for settling problems between Russia and the EU through a direct professional dialogue have been consistently ignored or rejected," the ministry said.

The EU sanctions targeted the Russian officials involved in the imprisonment of Navalny, the most adamant opponent and critics of Russian President Vladimir Putin. Navalny was arrested in January upon his return from Germany where he spent five months recovering from a nerve agent poisoning that he blames on the Kremlin, accusations that Russian officials reject. European labs have confirmed that Navalny was poisoned.

In February, Navalny was sentenced to two-and-a-half years in prison on charges of violating the terms of a suspended sentence while he was in Germany. The sentence stemmed from a 2014 embezzlement conviction that Navalny has rejected as politically driven.

> All our proposals for settling problems between Russia and the EU through a direct professional dialogue have been consistently ignored or rejected
>
> Russian Foreign Ministry

The Russian sanctions list also includes Ilmar Tomusk, the head of Estonia's Language Inspectorate; Ivars Abolins, chairman of Latvia's National Electronic Media Council; Maris Baltins, director of the Latvian State Language Center; Jacques Maire, a French lawmaker who is also a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe; Berlin chief state prosecutor Jorg Raupach; and Asa Scott, head of chemical and biological defense and security division at Swedish Defense Research Agency.

LAST RESPECTS

Navy personnel and family members throw flowers into sea during a ceremony remembering the crew of submarine KRI Nanggala that sank on April 21, on the deck of hospital ship KRI Dr Soeharso, on Bali Sea, Indonesia, on Friday | AP/PTI

KYRGYZSTAN & TAJIKISTAN TRY TO END CROSS-BORDER CLASHES

MOSCOW

A CEASEFIRE on the border between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan largely held on Friday following a day of intense clashes that killed more than 20 people and wounded over 100 in a conflict over water supply between the two ex-Soviet Central Asian neighbors.

More than 7,000 Kyrgyz residents have been evacuated from the area engulfed by the fighting as troops from the two countries exchanged gunfire around a water supply facility near the village of Kok-Tash in western Kyrgyzstan on the border with Tajikistan.

Early on Friday, Kyrgyz officials reported the firing on the border but later said that the truce is being observed.

Kyrgyzstan's Health Ministry said 13 people died and 134 others were injured in the clashes that marked the worst outbreak of hostilities between the two countries since they gained independence in the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union.

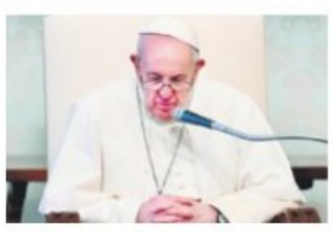
Local officials in the city of Isfara in Tajikistan reported eight dead and over 30 wounded. *AP*

Pope facilitates Vatican prosecutions for cardinals, bishops

ROME

POPE Francis has sent another message to Vatican-based cardinals and bishops about his intent to hold them accountable for criminal misconduct: He removed the procedural obstacles that had spared them from being prosecuted by the Vatican's criminal tribunal.

A new law published on Friday makes clear that Vatican city-state prosecutors have jurisdiction over cardinals and bishops and need only the pope's consent to proceed with investigations against them.



The law abrogated a regulation, upheld as recently as last year, that said only the tribunal's highest appeals court, which is composed of three cardinal judges, could assess the actions of cardinals and bishops accused of criminal offenses.

The reform is the latest sign that after eight years of preaching about ending corruption and other criminal activity in the Holy See, Francis is taking concrete steps to hold his own cardinals and bishops accountable.

On Thursday, he passed a different law forcing Vatican superiors to declare their finances are clean, and set a 40-euro cap on work-related personal gifts received by any Vatican employee.

The gift cap was seen as a way to cut down on the rampant practice of financial gift-giving to Holy See clerics and the chance that such money could grease favours.

Friday's reform follows Francis' decision last year to strip a senior Vatican official, Cardinal Angelo Becciu, of his rights and privileges as a cardinal in a move seen as laying the groundwork for Becciu to possibly be put on trial.

The allegations against him aren't clear, however, and Becciu hasn't been charged with any crime. *AP*

14 killed in suicide bomb attack in Afghanistan

KABUL

A POWERFUL suicide truck bombing struck a guest house in eastern Afghanistan on Friday, killing at least 14 people and wounding as many as 90, the Interior Ministry said.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the bombing in Pul-e-Alam, the capital of Logar province, and there was no indication as to why the guest house was targeted. In Afghanistan, guest houses are lodgings often provided for free by the government, usually for the poor, travelers and students.

The attack came on the eve of the official date set for the start of the final withdrawal of US and NATO troops from Afghanistan. The Taliban, who had demanded that all US troops pull out of Afghanistan by May 1, have not offered any guarantees for the safety of the departing troops.

There was no indication the bombing was connected to the pullout and there are no US or NATO troops in Logar. Rasool Gul Samar, head of the Logar provincial health department, said five bodies were brought to the hospital in Pul-e-Alam. He said that among the dozens of wounded, 12 people who were in critical condition were transferred to Kabul for treatment.

Hasib Stanikzai, head of the Logar provincial council, said the death toll could climb further. At the time of the attack, he said, a group of policemen were staying at the guest house, waiting for transportation home. Other rooms were occupied by students from more remote districts who had come to provincial capital for university exams. *AP*

Market Watch

MARKET			GOLD			SILVER			FOREX		
983.58 ↓	Sensex	48,782.36	₹14 ↓	24 carat (1 gm)	₹4,679	₹660 ↓	Per kg	₹67,800	↓ Dollar		74.09
263.80 ↓	Nifty	14,631.1	₹14 ↓	22 carat (1 gm)	₹4,660	₹0.66 ↓	Per gm	₹67.8	↑ Euro		89.06

States to get ₹15,000 cr interest-free loan

The Centre has decided to provide additional funds under the scheme launched last year to help states with capex

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

KEEPING in view the sharp rise in new cases as the second wave of the pandemic ravages the country, the Union finance ministry has decided to provide an additional amount of up to ₹15,000 crore to states as a 50-year, interest-free loan which they can spend on their capital projects—such as support infrastructure to fight the assault of the pandemic.

The Department of Expenditure, which comes under the finance ministry, has issued fresh guidelines in this regard. According to the statement issued by the ministry, this scheme has three parts—part one relates to North East and Hill States and an amount of ₹2,600 crore has been earmarked for this. Out of this, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand will get ₹400 crore each, while the remaining have been allocated ₹200 crore each.

As for part two, this section of the scheme covers all other states not included in part one. An amount of ₹7,400 crore is earmarked for this part and the amount has been allocated among the states in proportion

to their share of central taxes going by the award of the 15th Finance Commission for fiscal year 2021–22.

Part three of the scheme covers the provision of incentives to states for monetisation of infrastructure assets and disinvestment of state public sector enterprises. About ₹5,000 crore has been allocated for this part of the scheme. Under this, states will receive an interest-free 50 year loan ranging from 33 to 100 per cent of the amount realised by them, through assets monetisation listing and disinvestment.

> **Funds provided to the states under the scheme... would be used for new and ongoing capital projects. They may also be used for settling pending bills in ongoing capital projects** —Union Ministry of Finance

"Funds provided to the states under the scheme by the central government would be used for new and ongoing capital projects, for long-term benefit to the state. The funds may also be used for settling pending bills in ongoing capital projects," the finance ministry statement pointed out.

The scheme had first been launched last year in order to provide assistance to states in making adequate capital expenditure. The finance ministry added that a sum of ₹11,830.29 crore was released to the states in 2020-21.

Infra sectors show growth in March helped by low base

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

The growth rate of the economy's eight key infrastructure sectors rose by 6.8 per cent in March, government data showed on Friday, primarily due to a low base last year. On an overall basis for the entire financial year 2020-21, they contracted by 7 per cent.

The output from these eight sectors account for nearly 40 per cent of India's industrial production and this figure had contracted by 8.6 per cent in March 2020. In February, core sector output had fallen at the fastest pace in six months, contracting by 3.8 per cent. On an annual basis, core sector output witnessed a marginal 0.4 per cent rise in FY20 and a 4.4 per cent in FY19.

According to the official data released, coal, crude oil, refinery products, and fertiliser segments recorded negative growth despite the low base, while production of natural gas, steel, cement, and electricity grew. Cement production rose the highest—32.5 per cent—while coal witnessed the sharpest fall at 21.9 per cent. Crude oil production declined 3.1 per cent year-on-year, but natural gas production increased by 12.3 per cent in March. Petroleum refinery production declined by 0.7 per cent while fertilisers production dipped by 5 per cent. However, rlectricity generation increased by a robust 21.6 per cent.

Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist, ICRA Limited said, "Notwithstanding the base effect led-jump in the core sector growth to a 32-month high 6.8 percent in March 2021, the pace of expansion was weaker than our forecast of a 10 percent expansion, with a surprisingly sharp contraction in coal, and milder de-growth in fertilisers, crude oil and petroleum products".

Going forward, she added that the low base of April 2020 would push up the year-on-year expansion of the index of eight core industries to a sharp 50-70 per cent in April 2021, "with exceptionally high growth expected in cement and steel", boosting the IIP numbers.

6.8%
Core sector growth in March 2021

7%
Contraction in core sector for FY21

8.6%
Contraction in core sector in March '20

IIP to receive a low base boost in Mar

According to ICRA Limited, based on the available data, the agency is projecting that the Index of Industrial Production would record a sharp growth of 17.5-25.0 per cent for the month of March 2021 (-0.9 percent in January 2021; -3.6 percent in February 2021) due to a low base.

ASIANOMICS

THAILAND

MAS, BANK OF THAILAND LINK UP REAL-TIME PAYMENTS

The central banks of Singapore and Thailand—Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) and the Bank of Thailand—launched the world's first cross-border linkage of real-time payment systems allowing users to make fund transfers using mobile phone numbers only. To begin with, the serivce will only involve three Singapore-based banks, including DBS, and four banks in Thailand. The service is limited to small value peer-to-peer transactions that are up to $750 per day. Singapore's PayNow and Thailand's PromptPay have linked up their real-time retail payment systems allowing customers to make fast payments in under 5 minutes by just keying in the recipients' bank account-linked mobile phone numbers. Users will have to pay exchange rate and remittance fees for each fund transfer, but the cost will be about 3-5 per cent of the amount transferred—much lower than the nearly 11 per cent charged by banks for such cross-border fund transfers.

TAIWAN

WORK FROM HOME BOOSTS TAIWANS' GDP

Taiwan's economy grew at its fastest pace in more than a decade in Q1 of 2021, as the work-from-home boom sparked global demand for the island's hi-tech exports. GDP grew 8.16 per cent in Q1 over last year, preliminary data showed, up from Q4 's 5.09 per cent rise. Compared to Q4, the seasonally adjusted annual rate of growth was 12.93 per cent in Q1. The government attributed the strong growth to surging demand for electronics driven by new technologies like 5G and by people working from home due to the coronavirus pandemic. Total exports rose 25 per cent in Q1 in US dollar terms, while exports of electronics components rose 28 per cent and those of communication and audio-visual products grew by 30 per cent. Domestic consumption also fared well. A global shortage of chips for everything from cars to consumer electronics has bolstered demand for Made-in-Taiwan semiconductors, where producers are busy expanding capacity.

SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE'S INFLATION RISKS REMAIN BENIGN

Singapore's retail inflation rose for the fourth straight month at 1.3 per cent in March. The increase in consumer prices was at its fastest pace since July 2014, while core inflation accelerated to 0.5 per cent in March. The latest rise was not surprising considering higher global oil prices, according to research firm UOB Group. It added that the firming up of economic growth was likely supported by higher consumer prices as well. It reiterated that the higher core inflation seen since February 2021 suggests that the reintroduction of higher prices in Singapore's basket of goods and services may affect the day-to-day outlay of most Singaporean households. Nonetheless, the rise in prices has been relatively slow compared to the average 10-year headline and core inflation rate of 1.7 per cent and 1.5 per cent between 2010 and 2019. For the rest of the year, UOB continues to expect inflation risks to stay benign as business cost pressures remain contained amidst slow wage growth given the continued slack seen in Singapore's labour market.

SENSEX FALLS 983.58 POINTS AS COVID CRISIS CONTINUES

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

ENDING a four day bull run, benchmark indices fell sharply on Friday on account of rising Covid-19 cases, shortage of vaccines, weak global cues, and exit poll results for major state assembly elections.

The BSE Sensex plunged 983.58 points (1.98 per cent) to close at 48,782.36 while its broader peer NSE Nifty declined 263.80 points (1.77 per cent) to settle at 14,631.10. However, on a weekly basis, the Sensex advanced 903.91 points, and the Nifty 289.75 points.

"A persistent rise in daily caseload and higher number of deaths continue to remain matters of concern for central and state governments and therefore any possibility of further economic restrictions cannot be ruled out by the state governments. Market is expected to be volatile until we see a clear reversal in COVID-19 cases," said Binod Modi, Head-Strategy, Reliance Securities, "Domestic equities fell sharply today on weak global cues and heavy sell-off in financials. Asian markets traded weak on emerging concerns about growth after China's factory activity expanded slower than expected in April."

India on Friday reported 3,86,452 new coronavirus infections and 3,498 deaths in a span of 24 hours, the highest single-day rise so far. Additionally, multiple centres, including financial capital Mumbai, have halted vaccination drives due to a shortage of vaccines.

Experts have warned that this slow speed will not only extend the disastrous second wave but also delay economic recovery.. "The market turned into a correction phase following weakness in the Asian market despite hopeful signs from Wall Street. Rising covid cases and uncertainties surrounding vaccination added more pressure on the market," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Scrips which fell the most on Friday were the HDFC twins (HDFC and HDFC Bank), Kotak Mahindra Bank, ICICI Bank, Asian Paints, Mahindra & Mahindra with their stocks going down by around 4 per cent. On the NSE platform.

EXPRESS READ

Marico Q4 net profit up 14% at ₹227 cr

New Delhi: Marico Ltd on Friday reported a 14.07 per cent increase in its consolidated net profit at ₹227 crore for the March 2021 quarter, helped by a double-digit volume growth in the domestic market. The company had posted a net profit of ₹199 crore in the January-March quarter a year ago. Revenue from operations was up 34.49 per cent at ₹2,012 crore during the quarter under review.

Compliance eased for firms, market participants

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

WITH lockdowns imposed in several cities across India, market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has extended the deadline for many required compliances on the part of registered companies, including those required to file financial results.

SEBI has extended the deadline to file financial results for the quarter and the financial year ended March 31, 2021, up to June 30. The original deadlines were May 15 and May 30 respectively.

"SEBI is in receipt of representations from listed entities, professional bodies, industry associations, market participants etc. requesting extension of timelines for various filings and relaxation from certain compliance obligations under the LODR Regulations inter alia due to ongoing second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic and restrictions imposed by various state governments," SEBI said in a circular.

It also said that listed entities are permitted to use digital signature certifications for authentication or certification of filings or submissions made to the stock exchanges for all filings until December 31, 2021.

Further, SEBI has relaxed the KYC application requirements, , stating that, till June 30, 2021, documents may be uploaded on to the system of KRA within 15 working days.

It has also extended the deadlines for the submission of Internal Audit Reports for the half year ending March 2021, till July 31, in view of the Covid-19 situation and the difficulty faced by the corporates.

MULTIPLEX CHAINS TO CONTINUE RECORDING LOSSES THIS FISCAL TOO

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Chennai

LOCAL lockdowns and night curfews to contain the second Covid wave is set to extract a high toll on multiplex chains in the country, according to Crisil, with the ratings agency stating that companies in this sector will report operating losses for the second consecutive year. A recovery may only be possible in FY23, it added.

The sector, arguably one of the worst impacted in the pandemic, can look at a recovery only in the next financial year, the Crisil report said.

"Multiplexes are set to log operating losses for the second straight fiscal as localised lockdowns, night curfews and other restrictions to contain the resurgence of coronavirus infections will keep occupancies low for the next few months," it noted. Multiplexes were the first ones to close in March 2020, even before a lockdown was announced, and the last ones to resume operations in October.

Occupancies had started improving post-resumption and was expected to reach 18-22 per cent, the breakeven level in terms of operating profit, in the current quarter, it noted, adding that occupancy levels doubled to 12-13 per cent in the March quarter and were also seen touching the 25 per cent mark in South India.

However, the recent spike in Covid-19 cases will send the estimate of a recovery asked and defer recovery to the second half of this fiscal, the authors of the report said. They also pointed out that its base case scenario assumes an average occupancy of 10-12 per cent in the first half of this fiscal and 20-22 per cent in the second half, once the restrictions on occupancy and fear of infection recedes. "A full recovery is seen only in fiscal 2023," it observed.

RESULTS PKG

Reliance Industries consolidated net profit doubles on low base

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) on Friday reported a more than doubling of its March quarter net profit, primarily driven by the low base of the corresponding quarter of the previous year. However, its consumer businesses—retail and telecom—combined with the petrochemicals segment witnessed sequential recovery, which worked to offset the continued weakness in refining.

The company's consolidated net profit came in at ₹13,227 crore for the quarter, against ₹6,348 crore a year ago. The fourth quarter earnings also included a ₹797 crore exceptional gain due to the sale of its US shale assets. Consolidated revenue was up 13.6 per cent to ₹1,72,095 crore.

As for the whole financial year 2020-21, the conglomerate posted a net profit of ₹53,739 crore, up 34.8 per cent year-on-year. This was boosted by the sharp rise in annual EBITDA for Jio Platforms at ₹32,359 crore and highest ever annual EBITDA for Reliance Retail at ₹9,789 crore. But the oil-to-chemical business, while improving quarter-on-quarter, was lower than earnings seen a year ago due to persistent weakness in the refining business. However, with consumer businesses telecom and retail now contributing 45 per cent of earnings compared to 33 per cent a year ago, refining weakness has been offset.

Jio Platforms, which houses the firm's telecom arm Jio, posted a 47.5 per cent growth in its net profit to ₹3,508 crore during the quarter, and the retail business net profit rose 45 per cent quarter-on-quarter to ₹2,247 crore in Q4. However, the resurgence of Covid infections has impacted the retail operations in April, with footfalls dropping to 35-40 per cent of pre-Covid levels for the company.

> **We have registered robust recovery in O2C and retail segment, and resilient growth in Digital Services business (which includes telecom unit Jio)** —Mukesh Ambani, CMD, RIL

₹13.3k cr
Consolidated Q4 net profit

₹6.3k cr
Consoldiated net profit in Q4FY20

₹1.5L cr
Consolidated revenue in Q4FY21

IndusInd Bank posts 193% jump in net profit

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Chennai

IndusInd Bank on Friday reported a 193 per cent jump in consolidated profit after tax at ₹926 crore for the March quarter, aided by higher net interest income and lower provisions. The bank had reported a consolidated profit after tax (PAT) of ₹315 crore in the fourth quarter of FY2019-20.

On a standalone basis, the lender reported a net profit of ₹875.95 in the quarter ended March compared to ₹301.84 crore in the year-ago period. "During FY21, as well as Q4, the bank witnessed healthy growth in its top line as well as in its pre-provision operating profits (PPOP). Overall, I think, we have navigated well in the year and come up stronger than before," its Managing Director and CEO Sumant Kathpalia told reporters.

Net interest income (NII) rose by 9 per cent year-on-year to ₹3,535 crore in Q4 of FY21.Net interest margins (NIM) stood at 4.13 per cent as against 4.25 per cent in the fourth quarter of FY20. The NIM was impacted as the bank carried ₹10,000 crore of higher liquidity during the quarter, Kathpalia said. Gross non-performing assets (GNPAs) stood at 2.67 per cent of gross advances from 2.45 per cent earlier. Net NPAs were at 0.69 per cent from 0.91 per cent.

Yes Bank reports widening of net loss at ₹3,788 crore for fourth qtr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

Private sector lender Yes Bank on Friday reported a widening of its net loss for the quarter ended March 31, 2021 at ₹3,788 crore compared to a net loss of ₹3,668 crore recorded in the corresponding quarter of last year. The controversy-hit lender, which is eyeing a turnaround, had reported a net profit of ₹150.71 crore in the quarter ended December 31, 2020.

As for March quarter, total income of the bank declined to ₹4,805.30 crore from ₹5,818.59 crore a year ago. Net interest income, the difference between interest earned and interest expended, fell 22.5 per cent year-on-year to ₹986.7 crore. Advances for the quarter, at ₹1.66 lakh crore, declined 2.7 per cent YoY while deposits grew by 54.7 per cent YoY to ₹1.62 lakh crore.

Provisions (other than tax expense) and contingencies rose to ₹5,239.59 crore from ₹4,872.34 crore. The bank's gross non performing assets improved at 15.41 per cent of gross advances, however, compared to 16.8 per cent as on March 31, 2020. But net NPAs rose to 5.88 per cent from 5.03 per cent.

"GNPA book or legacy stressed book is well provided for and has demonstrated a robust cash recovery of Rs 4,933 crore. Our overdue book of 31-90 days has reduced by 28 per cent over the last quarter. Asset quality and quality recognition has peaked and recovery income will cover for incremental slippages next year," said Prashant Kumar, MD and CEO, YES Bank.

Bank provisioning for Covid impact proactively

The bank said that it has made proactive provisioning of ₹250 crore towards Covid-19 related restructuring (₹2,500 crore) expected to be implemented in first quarter of the current fiscal.

Nightmare of a week, tweets Ashwin's wife

Feeling ok enough to croak a tiny hi to all of you.6 adults and 4 children ended up testing+ the same week,with our kids being the vehicles of transmission - the core of my family,all down with the virus in different homes/hospitals..Nightmare of a week.1 of 3 parents back home.
— Prithi Ashwin

Gulf emerges as Plan B for T20 WC

If Covid situation continues to deteriorate in India, ICC is expected to name UAE as hosts

VENKATA KRISHNA B @Chennai

EVEN though the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) wants to keep the T20 World Cup scheduled for October-November at home, the United Arab Emirates has been finalised as the back-up venue over Sri Lanka. With India witnessing a strong second wave across the country with over 3 lakh cases reported over the past week and travel restrictions in place, the International Cricket Council's (ICC) recce team has already postponed its arrival in India to inspect the bio-bubble facilities in place for the IPL.

As reported by this newspaper on April 21, the ICC has been monitoring the Covid-19 situation in India, particularly after a couple of participating nations raised concerns about travelling to the World Cup. Although the 16-team event in six months away, India is currently on the travel red-list of England and Australia. With experts predicting that the current situation will worsen, whether these countries allow their teams to travel to India remains a big question.

The BCCI, over the past week, has been optimistic that they would be able to keep the World Cup at home. However, the delay in the vaccination programme could have an effect on the tournament too and a final call on the host is expected to be taken by the ICC at its annual meeting in June. "We will be doing normal scenario, Covid scenario and worst-case scenario, so with all that we're talking to the ICC at the moment," BCCI's general manager (game development) Dhiraj Malhotra told the BBC's Stumped podcast.

As far as the back-up plan goes, Malhotra said: "It would be the UAE. We're hoping again that it would be done by the BCCI. So, we'll take the tournament there, but it'll still be done by the BCCI. As of now, we are targetting and looking at ticket sales and people travelling from all over the world. But again, we don't know what the situation will be at that point in time."

It is understood that the BCCI will request the ICC for more time to arrive at the final decision, at least till August. After shortlisting nine venues to host the T20 World Cup, the BCCI is now looking to restrict it to four-five venues if it helps them to keep the event at home. However, there is also acknowledgment in the board circles that the decision is beyond them as not all 15 teams might get clearance to travel to India, which is the second-most Covid-19 infected country in the world since the pandemic began.

OUR IPL SPACE

School takes up vegetable cultivation to feed villagers

SAJIMON PS @Pathanamthitta

Headmasters and teachers joined hands to start farming in 3-acre space of school to help poor families in and around Edamuri (Pathanamthitta)

HEADMASTER, teachers and non-teaching staff of a government school here have been doing cultivation on their school premises to give away vegetables to poor families, as a means to help them during the pandemic.

The pandemic has smashed the livelihoods of many people and the people of Edamuri, a place in Pathanamthitta, are no exception. So, the headmaster and teachers of Edamuri Government Higher Secondary School have started farming to serve scores of poor families in the area. The non-teaching staff, parents and villagers also have come forward to help the teachers.

"Our school is having around 3 acres and over one acre of it was remaining useless since it was covered with bushes and creepers. Our school earlier used to spend its funds for clearing the bushes and creepers. But after they were cleared, bushes and creepers again appeared within a three-month gap. So, our school headmaster, Sunil Sir, shared the idea of doing cultivation in this land and the school management committee wholeheartedly welcomed this idea. We have cleared the land with the support of our Krishi Bhavan and MGNREGA workers," said Binish Philip, a teacher of the school.

"During Covid-19 lockdown time, we got free time. So, we conducted cultivation of different kinds of vegetables, tubers and bananas. Krishi Bhavan officials have given seeds, manures and technical support for the cultivation free of cost. The teachers, who are staying in and around the village, used to come to school for taking care of the plants. Teachers Bineesh and Lincymol PR, non-teaching staff Aravind Mohan R and Balan P spearheaded our cultivation.

We have mainly done the cultivation of spinach, brinjal, ladies finger, chillies, cauliflower and peas. Besides, turmeric, banana and tapioca are also being cultivated by us," said Sunil K, headmaster of the school.

"The majority of the students of our school are from tribal families. We are giving all the vegetables to these poor families. This cultivation is teaching us new lessons during this Covid-19 time," the teachers said.

WEIGHT LIFGING

Mirabai to leave for US today

FIROZ MIRZA @Chennai

AS Covid cases rise in the country, Olympic-bound athletes are looking to go abroad for training and competitions as well. There have been last-minute hassles, but somehow teams have managed to go abroad. Weightlifter Mirabai Chanu's wish of going to the US for rehabilitation and training was granted by the Mission Olympic Cell, which convened an emergency meeting on Friday.

"We will leave tomorrow (Saturday) and will be training at the same place in St Louis where we trained for two months last year," Vijay Sharma, chief coach, told this daily. He along with assistant coach Sandeep Kumar will accompany the 26-year-old Manipur weightlifter.

They will also be joined by lifters Dalabehera Jhilli (45kg), Jeremy Larinnunga (67kg) and Achinta Sheuli (73kg). "We have applied for visas for these three weightlifters. Once they get visas, they will join us in St Louis," the coach added.

While Mirabai has assured herself an Olympic berth by winning a bronze medal at the Asian Championships, Jeremy too has almost qualified for the mega event but a final confirmation in this regard would be made once final rankings are out in May.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Testing times await rowers in Tokyo meet

INDRANEEL DAS @Chennai

AFTER a few days of uncertainty and trepidation, a 14-member rowing team is on its way to participate at the Asian and Oceania Olympic and paralympic qualification Regatta in Tokyo. Interestingly, this will be one of the first few teams that would be participating in a tournament with similar restrictions, if not same, as during the Olympics. There are four men, four women, one para-rower and support staff in the team.

The Rowing Federation of India (RFI) had a tough time getting the visa process done on time. With limited flight options, the team had to extend a day's stay as there were no direct flights back home. Special clearances were sought from Japan government for the visas and then the external ministry had to intervene to get the visas from the vendor. "So there were challenges but in the end as of now it is going on well," said Rajlaxmi Singh Deo, president of the RFI.

The team apparently will be subjected to very tough protocol once they land, including a two-day quarantine and regular Covid-19 tests. According to the RFI chief, the rules were constantly changing and they had to acquire a number of certificates before departure. "They kept asking for a lot of medical clearances and certificates which was risky considering the situation right now but we managed," said Deo.

The strict rule in Tokyo too would be challenge for the athletes. The rowers would be given a single room each and even the food would be served only in the room with no access to common dinning area. The rowers will also be not allowed to mingle in the hotel and can only mix with each other at the venue. "They will be taken to the venue for training and competitions by a bus where they can interact," said the RFI chief. "It will be tough to keep yourself motivated alone in the room. Not even masseurs are allowed into the room."

The visa process too was cumbersome as the Japan Embassy in Delhi required special permission from their government to issue visas. According to Deo, last Monday they were informed that Japan would accept the passport and they had to get the passport from the vendor that was facilitating visas earlier. "We had to take sports ministry and MEA's help to get the passport and submit to the embassy." The RFI chief felt that the rowers would be able to secure three quotas at least.

Team: Men: Jakar Khan, Arjun Jat, Arvind Singh; **Reserve:** Sunil Attri. **Women:** Khushpreet Kaur, Vdhya Sankat, Rukmani Dangi; **Reserve:** Sona Kheer .

SHOOTING

Croatia trip in NRAI's plan

ANMOL GURUNG @Chennai

After making headlines during the ISSF Delhi World Cup, the shooters have mostly been confined to their respective places, still unsure what their next step will be in build-up to Tokyo Olympics. Bearing in mind the pandemic and preparations for the Olympics, this daily understands that the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), the governing body of the sport in the country, is looking to send the shooters to Croatia by mid-May. However, it's still far from certain as they have to get clearances from many quarters in the days to come.

Talks about sending the shooters to Croatia for training-cum-competition has been floating around for some time now. The shooters and coaches had initially hoped to be there by early May so that they can train there for a few days before taking part in the European Shooting Championships. It is learnt Raninder Singh, the NRAI chief, has been in constant touch with the officials from the Croatian Shooting Federation and they are willing to let Indians be part of the competition in MQS section (no medal, no finals). "We are still working on it. We are exploring all possibilities so that the training does not suffer. We are looking at various options and we'll pick whichever suits us," Rajiv Bhatia, NRAI secretary, said.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Bridge between plasma donors & patients

ASISH MEHTA @Bhubaneswar

AMID rise in Covid-19 cases, India Cares, a social organisation, has launched an online system to connect plasma donors with infected people across the country. The organisation has uploaded a link on Twitter where donors can click and fill the required details in a Google form.

For donating plasma, a donor must have recovered from Covid-19 around 21 to 28 days back. The donor must also have adequate antibodies which would be tested before he/she is allowed to donate. "India Cares volunteers would contact the donors and advice them to visit a blood bank or hospital where a Covid-19 patient is undergoing treatment," said Sabita Chanda, one of the volunteers who is overseeing the activity. Chanda said India Cares has been connecting plasma donors with Covid patients for the last year.

However, the demand for plasma therapy went up considerably in December, 2020 and January this year after several blood banks and hospitals ran out of plasma.

Apart from Odisha, the organisation is also receiving requests for plasma from states like Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi. The online process for plasma donation was started on April 9 this year. Till now, 816 registrations have been done for both blood and plasma donation. "We are receiving 20 registrations from across the country every week," said Chanda.

EXPRESS READ

Villareal down 10-man Arsenal

MADRDID: Unai Emery won his big reunion with Arsenal but 2-1 might prove a small reward for Villarreal, who failed to take advantage of Dani Ceballos being sent off in a frantic Europa League semifinal first leg on Thursday. In other semifinal, Manchester United defeated AS Roma 6-2 at Old Trafford.

Solid start by Gangjee, lies fourth

NAGOYA: Rahil Gangjee started off with a solid four-under 68 that put him at Tied-fourth place and just two shots adrift of the prodigious Takumi Kanaya, who led after the first round of the Crowns Tournament here. The 42-year-old from Kolkata was most pleased with a clean card that had four birdies and no bogeys.

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JUDGE: Anuja Chandramouli Bestselling author

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Michelle Theophine, Rajagiri Christu Jayanthi Public School, Kochi

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Anjali Menon, Blooming Buds BES, Vellithuruthi

Minerva Siddhi, DAV Public School, Bhubaneswar

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JUDGE: Kaveree Bamzai Senior journalist and author

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- The beneficiaries of the National Food Security Act and Socio-Economic Census-2011 are not required to register. They will continue to receive benefits as before.

Those who have registered till 30th April 2021, will be covered under the Scheme starting from 1st May 2021.

Those families who register till 31st May 2021, will avail benefits of the Scheme from the date of registration.
Those who register after 31st May 2021 will avail benefits of the Scheme from 1st August 2021.

Free registration at E-Mitra Kendra

There is no restriction on the size of family and income limit, for the Scheme.

Government personnel are not required to register under this scheme as RGHS is being implemented by the State Government, on the lines of CGHS.

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*The State Government shall bear the premium amount of the Scheme for the beneficiaries of the National Food Security Act and Socio-Economic Census-2011, small and marginal farmers, contract workers, helpless and destitute families who received an ex-gratia amount by the State Government for COVID-19 last year. Besides the above categories, all other families can avail benefits of this Scheme by paying an annual premium of Rs. 850 only.

Nodal Agency - Rajasthan State Health Assurance Agency (Department of Medical, Health & Family Welfare)

For registration and more information visit
https://chiranjeevi.rajasthan.gov.in
or call on 181 / 1800 180 6127

Department of Information & Public Relations, Rajasthan

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DAY'S DIARY

Cartoon premiere

SpongeBob, along with his friends Patrick, Sandy, Squidward and Mr Krabs, debuted on Nickelodeon on this day in 1999

WHERE THEY LIVE

SpongeBob SquarePants was created by marine biologist and animator Stephen Hillenburg. Much of the series is set in the underwater city of Bikini Bottom

CHAOS UNDERWATER

SpongeBob approaches life in a wayward and unconventional way. SpongeBob's good intentions and overzealous approach to life usually create chaos in his underwater world

PINEAPPLE HOME

The reason Hillenburg put SpongeBob in a pineapple home is because he thought he'd like the smell; smell is a very important sense for sea animals and sea life

S Mahendar to direct Ravichandran

PG 4

WATCH LIST

SHADOW AND BONE (ENGLISH)
Streaming on Netflix

Based on the Grisha novel trilogy, this series is filled with elements of fantasy and adventure as it takes you on through a visual spectacle. Alina Starkov, an orphaned girl, falls in love with a friend and both eventually decide to join the army. As the two traverse the dark and barren land, Alina realizes that she has the ability to control light, and that her power could help free her country from the Shadow Fold, a darkness which plagues the world. Will she be able to do it?

Cast: Ben Barnes, Jessie Mei Li

THINGS HEARD AND SEEN (ENGLISH)
Streaming on Netflix

If you are a fan of the horror- thriller genre, this movie must be on your weekend watchlist. A young woman and her husband leave Manhattan for small-town life. But Catherine soon discovers that both her husband George and their new home harbour sinister secrets. As they deal with the supernatural phenomenon in the house, there is also an element of conflict between a toxic husband and a victimised wife.

Cast: Amanda Seyfried, James Norton

NOMADLAND (ENGLISH)
Streaming on Disney+Hotstar

The Oscar-winning film should definitely be on your OTT watchlist. Fern loses her job in the aftermath of the Great Recession and is forced to sell her belongings. She wanders towards the American West, lives as a nomad and socializes with fellow nomads. The film walks you through the challenging life of Fern and how different phases of her life pan out as she sets out for different tasks as a nomad.

Cast: Frances McDormand, David Strathaim

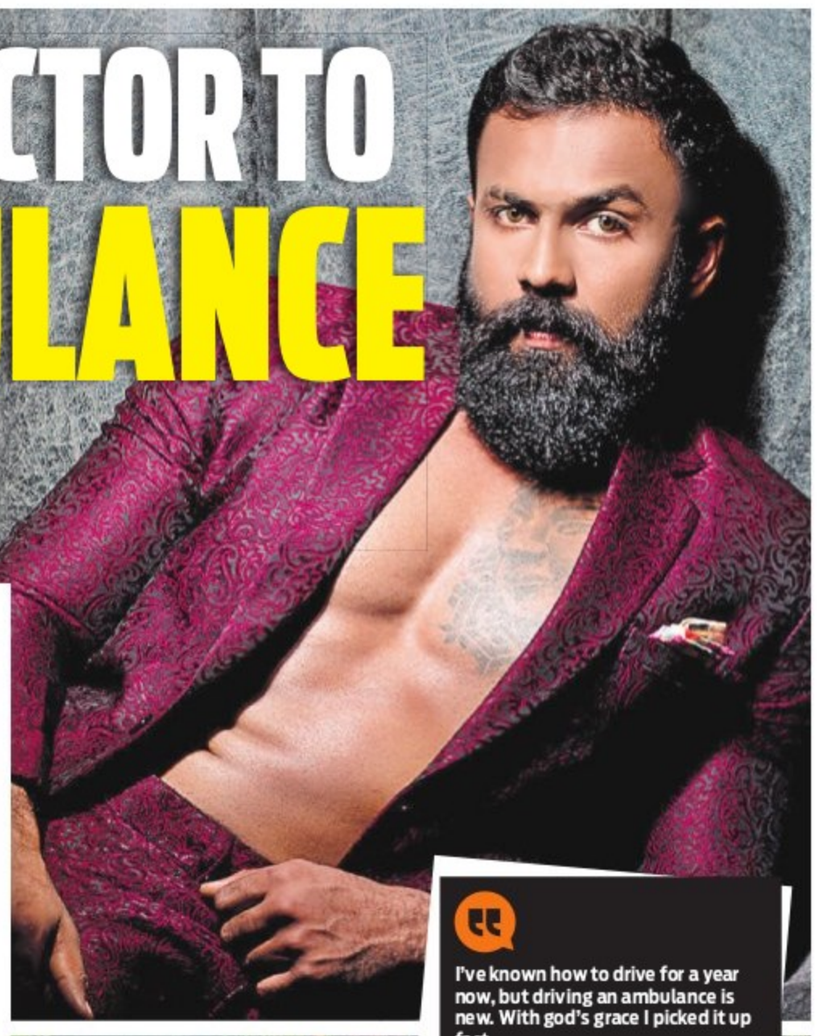
WITHOUT REMORSE (ENGLISH)
Streaming on Amazon Prime Video

Inspired by Tom Clancy's novel of the same name, the film explores the story of an elite Navy SEAL John Clark, from the Jack Ryan universe. Clark begins to uncover an international conspiracy while seeking justice for the murder of his pregnant wife. Clark spearheads a mission to rescue a CIA operative, following which his wife is murdered. While the US looks for retaliation options, the tensions between US and the enemy state might lead to a full scale war.

Cast: Michael Jordan, Jamie Bell

Arjun Gowda was spurred into action after an elderly woman died of Covid and her family needed ₹12,000 to pay for an ambulance to take her body to a crematorium

FROM ACTOR TO AMBULANCE DRIVER



A SHARADHAA

Actor Arjun Gowda is, as his social media status says, 'Fullll Busy', with the role he has chosen to play off-screen. For the past 10 days, the 27-year-old Mandya-born actor has been driving COVID-19 patients to hospital and also taking the bodies of those didn't survive the disease for their last rites.

The trigger for him was the death of the elderly woman who supplied milk to them every day. She died of Covid and he heard that when her grandson tried to arrange for an ambulance to take her body from the hospital to the crematorium, they were charged ₹12,000. "This disturbed me a lot," says Gowda, who has acted in films like *Odeya*, *Rustum*, and *Yuvarathnaa*. Gowda then approached Project Smile Trust and volunteered to be a driver. "I've known how to drive for a year now, but driving an ambulance is new. With god's grace I picked it up fast," he jokes.

Although the situation is painful, Gowda feels a sense of satisfaction in being able to help people. "A government employee sent his family to their hometown hoping that they would not be at risk. But the man had a wheezing problem and died in his sleep. His neighbours called us as none of his relatives came forward. We took the body to a cremation centre and did the last rites as well. We then made sure the ashes reached the family," Gowda says.

A staunch believer of Lord Shiva, Gowda has visited Kashi several times. "I have a lot of friends at Manikarnika Ghat, whom I have assisted during the performance of last rites," he says. For Gowda, Bengaluru has become somewhat like Manikarnika Ghat. "An incinerator takes one-and-a-half an hour to burn a body, and each crematorium has one or maximum of two incinerators. Sometimes, a body taken at 6 am will be burnt by 7 pm, and we have to wait till next morning. Until then, we have to arrange for an icebox to keep the body. We have to keep changing PPE suits, which makes the body sweat all over," Gowda says.

> I've known how to drive for a year now, but driving an ambulance is new. With god's grace I picked it up fast
>
> Arjun Gowda, actor

Arjun Gowda

Arjun has isolated himself from his family, and has lost track of how many Covid tests he has undergone. "Thankfully each time it has been negative," he says. As for his family's response, Gowda says, "I had lied to my mother saying I would stay alone because I was working on a script. But a friend leaked the information, and she found out. Initially, she was shocked and even yelled at me. But I made her understand (my decision) and she now supports me."

Based on the experience of the last 10 days, Gowda just has one thing to say to people: "Maintain your health with good food, focus on fitness and think positive."

Gowda, who is awaiting the release of *WoW*, in which he plays the lead, is looking forward to the shooting of the as yet untitled Tamil film in which he will share screen space with Vijay Sethupathi. "I have been approached for films in various languages for different roles, but the lockdown has delayed the process," he says.

Debolina Ray, a city-based blogger who runs the blog She Knows Grub, dishes out fun food-related trivia in this weekly series. So, answer these three questions and find out how much of a foodie you are.

GRUB HUB

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'**

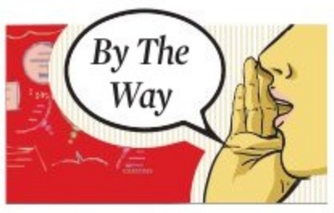
The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in CE on Monday. The first prize winner this week will also receive a complimentary voucher on delivery (worth `2,500) from Hopshaus **

QUESTIONS

1. This is a popular breakfast item or even tea time snack, and looks similar to puris. It is made of flour, mashed bananas, and sugar and is usually eaten with a side of coconut chutney or sagu. What is the dish? Hint: The name itself has the place it is from!
2. This city is the origin place of benne dosas, so much so that the place is also known as 'Benne Nagari'. But aside from this dish, there's a restaurant there that is hugely popular for serving North Karnataka meals with Jowar Roti. What is the name of the city, and what is the name of this hotel?
3. The iconic Pub World on Residency Road closed down in 2017. Which is the latest pub chain that opened up in the same place?

**Conditions apply

For more food-related stories and recipes, turn to page 3.



Hanging in there

Nikhil Chinapa posted a throwback photo on his Instagram. He recalled how the picture was taken when "we had cautiously started to step out to shoot again .. and that too inside a bio-bubble." He wrote, "Shoots can wait though. Friends can wait and so can meeting your family. Everything under the sun can wait. Just please stay home and stay safe and when your turn comes, get vaccinated".

CITY READ

Cooling therapy saves newborn's life

Rainbow Children's Hospital provides cooling therapy for newborns with asphyxia. Recently, neonatologists at the hospital tried to help a newborn baby who took 11 minutes to take his first breath. They performed cooling therapy for the baby to give him a normal neurodevelopmental outcome. The baby was cooled for 72 hours and slowly rewarmed over 12 hours. He was monitored closely for vitals and systemic functions and seizures were treated. After an MRI, the baby was normal in condition and after a neurological examination, he was discharged.

Small efforts, big relief

Netizens have found a range of unique ways to help, lending their time to assist Covid patients and caregivers with academic help, local language assistance, pet care, and more

SIMRAN AHUJA

With online platforms turning into a pandemic helpline, many are spending time amplifying pleas or making calls to help patients meet their requirements. But among the flood of posts on availability of beds, oxygen cylinders or medicines, are other help offerings, perhaps smaller and less urgent in nature, but of no less importance. Take, for instance, Sindhu Rao, a city-based techie who is offering to help people speak to authorities in Kannada. "The idea came from a colleague who tested positive. Not familiar with Kannada, he would record his calls with BBMP volunteers and send them to me to translate," says Rao, who also saw firsthand how helpful it was for her to know the local language as she struggled to find an ICU bed for her father the past few days. "Even at the hospital I saw how much one suffers if they can't converse with attendants in Kannada. So, I want to help in my own way," she adds.

Sindhu Rao

The sentiment is the same with other volunteers too. While many documents with details of home chefs offering meals were floating around on the internet, Sneha Vachhaney worked on an interface (*codifiedself.github.io/homefood/*) that makes the search easier. "It covers 190 chefs in 125 areas in the city," says Vachhaney, who built this platform with Nitin Pande.

Anamika Nambiar

> I can't help arrange for ambulances but even if I help one person get the vaccine, that may be one less bed needed at a hospital
>
> Parinita Narayan

Meet Anamika Nambiar whose initiative isn't limited to humans. A pet parent herself, Nambiar knew if she were to be sick, she would worry about feeding her dogs. This led her to prepare food for pets of Covid positive patients as well, taking her total tally of daily meals up to 40-45 for patients, and six for their pets. "I feel quite drained but I'm not going to stop," she says.

There's no doubt that a mental health crisis is also unfolding alongside the pandemic. This prompted Neelika Chakrabarti and Sagar Menon, co-founders of the non-profit Citta, to take action. "We put together a helpline that will connect Covid patients and caregivers with a mental health professional. The 30-minute session offers emotional support at no charge," says Chakrabarti whose initiative is available pan-India.

Recognising the challenges of caregiving, Rishika Arora tweeted her support to students. The 18-year-old Delhi-based student is helping peers across India with their assignments. "I proofread papers, provide resources, help with an outline or get on a call to assist them with an assignment," she says.

While Arora helps students with academic information, Parinita Narayan is helping residents find verified data about vaccination drives in Bengaluru through Twitter. For this, the 36-year-old makes calls between 8.30am and 3pm. On her Twitter, she even posted about accompanying seniors to vaccination sites in Jayanagar, JP Nagar, Banashankari, MG Road and Richmond Town. "I can't help arrange for ambulances but even if I help one person get the vaccine, that may be one less bed needed at a hospital," she says.

Sneha Vachhaney

REACH OUT

Academics/assignments aid: Rishika Arora, @michelfoucault on Twitter

Home chefs: Sneha Vacchaney, @snehavachhaney on Twitter and Instagram

Food for pets: Anamika Nambiar, @themindfulwhisker on Instagram

Vaccination drives: Parinita Narayan, @reachpari on Twitter

Emotional Support: @Cittaindia on Instagram

Language assistance: @SindhuRao_ on Twitter

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION

Learn the art of acting from the star himself, Manoj Bajpayee. Enroll for these online acting sessions and learn how to crack auditions, script writing, work on dialects, improvisation, voice delivery, and more. There will be 23 lessons in total.
When: May 8 onwards
Details: Unluclass

FILM SCREENING

Ethiros theatre group is streaming an online film *Unusual Suspect*. The film is about a group of friends who has come together on a video call for their college reunion. Owing to tragic events it becomes a race against time to save lives. **When:** May 1, 11pm, **For tickets:** bookmyshow

MUSIC CONCERT

Enjoy an evening of classical fusion with the Teen Prahar concert, which will present various ragas. The musical evening will feature artistes like Anindo Chatterjee, Giridhar Udupa, and Ustad Shujaat Khan among others. **When:** May 8, 6pm **Where:** Online, tickets on bookmyshow

COMEDY SHOW

Check out this online comedy show featuring standup comedian Sai Kiran. The show is themed 'Rolling New Jokes' which will feature jokes on interesting thoughts and new stories. The event is one hour long and is priced at Rs 249
When: May1, 9pm
Details: Bookmyshow

SIGN UP FOR AN ONLINE SESSION TO LEARN THE ART OF STORYTELLING WITH LEADERSHIP COACH JAY KUMAR HARIHARAN **WHEN:** MAY 1 ONWARDS. **DETAILS:** BOOKMYSHOW

Carnatic Music Workshop

Sign up for an online Carnatic music workshop with artiste Twinkle Ann. The training will focus on vocal warm up exercises, voice range, geethams and more. The workshop is open for those aged between 8 and 14 years. It will have five sessions a month. **When:** May 1 onwards, **Details:** Lahe Lahe website

Skilling up

Develop your interpersonal skills through 'magic' with artiste Sharan Kutappa. The month-long online session focuses on boosting self confidence, problem solving, public speaking, and more.
When: May1 onwards
Details: booksmyshow.com

Online Fitness

If the lockdown is hampering your fitness routine at fitness centres, well here's a way out. Get sweating with the online holistic fitness training including fun workouts, yoga, meditation and other lifestyle activities. Enjoy the live fitness classes for one month
When: Ongoing **Where:** online
Details: Cure.fit website

Gourmet Mania

Get interesting culinary dishes like aachari tandoor chicken, paneer, a basket full of fries, macchi 65, spicy BBQ chicken wings, periperi fish fingers and lots more to accompany some chilled beer at your doorstep. **When:** Until May 30 **Where:** Aloft Bengaluru Cessna Business Park Details :8884452271

Online Science Workshop

Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium is organising a five-day online programme for high school students to help them explore science related activities. The workshop will give hands on training in simple and easy to do science experiments which the children can practise at home. **When:** May 4, 12pm , Register at bookmyshow

Virtual Games

Sign your kids up for an adventurous treasure hunt game online. Meet an interesting line-up of characters and decode the clues to unearth the valuable treasure with your investigative skills. **When:** May 2, 6pm,
Details: bookmyshow.com

QUICK FIX

What's cooking

IN YOUR KITCHEN?
We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

IMMUNITY BOOSTING ALMOND DATE LADDUS

INGREDIENTS

- **Almonds:** 1/2 cup
- **Walnuts/cashews:** 1/2 cup
- **Pumpkin/sunflower seeds:** 1/3 cup
- **Mejdool dates:** 8
- **Virgin coconut oil:** 2 tbsp
- **Turmeric powder:** 1/2 tbsp
- **Ginger powder:** 1/2 tbsp
- **Himalayan pink salt/salt:** 1 pinch

METHOD

- Remove the skin from the dates and de-seed them. Pulse almonds, turmeric, ginger powder and salt. Add dates and pulse again. Add walnuts and pulse. Let it be slightly coarse this time.
- Add the pumpkin seeds and coconut oil and pulse once. The mixture would come together now.
- Shape these in small laddus/balls between your palms Let the laddus sit for a while and then store them.

— Sarika Gupta, Thiruvananthapuram

FIT BIT

NIRALAMBA SARVANGASANA

(UNSUPPORTED SHOULDER STAND POSE)

In Sanskrit, 'nir' means without, 'alamba' means support, 'sarvanga' means whole body, and 'asana' means 'pose.' It is an advanced balancing inversion requiring flexibility in the shoulders and neck, while stimulating the thyroid gland, in addition to improving balance. From Sarvangasana, the arms are lifted alongside the body with the fingers spread facing upwards. The drishti is also upwards. This pose is believed to activate the Vishuddha (throat) chakra, associated with understanding, faith and communication: more specifically, higher communication. By stimulating the Vishuddha chakra, the yogi opens him/herself to authentic expression and the highest truth. It promotes mental, emotional and spiritual balance.

STEPS

- Come into Sarvangasana and release the arms. Using abdominal strength, take the body deeper into the pose by stretching the legs and arms upwards bringing the weight of the body at the shoulders.
- Here, the only support is the shoulders, so using the abdominal strength is essential to hold the body. One could lose balance and begin to go backwards, but watching the breath will help you remain in the centre.
- It is not so easy to perform. A lot of practice is needed to make sure the neck and the chest don't feel the pressure of the body and breathing is smooth.
- Once the breathing is in your control, remain here for about six breaths or as long as you are comfortable.
- You can slowly release from the pose and come back to Savasana (Corpse Pose) and relax for eight breaths.

BENEFITS

- Entire body is toned by an increase in the flow of blood and by the elimination of toxin-forming waste matter.
- Helps in recovery from weakness.
- Calms the brain and helps relieve stress.
- Stimulates the thyroid and prostate glands and abdominal organs.
- Stretches the shoulders and neck.
- Tones the legs and buttocks.
- Helps improve digestion.
- Helps relieve symptoms of menopause.
- Reduces fatigue. Alleviates insomnia.
- Therapeutic for asthma, infertility, and sinusitis.

LIMITATIONS

- If you are still not comfortable with breathing in Sarvangasana, then practising this can be a challenge. Hence, mastery over breath awareness is a must.
- Students suffering from glaucoma or other eye problems, have had abdominal or any other surgery, should avoid this.
- Students with hyperthyroidism or hypothyroidism or suffering from migraine, constant headaches, dizziness, low blood sugar, asthma, etc., should practise with the guidance of a yoga teacher.

— by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

SOUND BOARD

ANUPAM CARES
Anupam shares the stories that happened off-screen. You'll hear about his childhood mischief in the hills of Shimla, the highs and lows of his early career, and the lessons learned along the way. And each episode, you'll also hear stories of unsung heroes from around the world.
- On Gaana.com

SADHGURU SPEAKS
Sadhguru, a Yogi, mystic and visionary, is a spiritual master with a difference. His life and work serve as a reminder that yoga is not an esoteric discipline from an outdated past, but a contemporary science, vitally relevant to our times.
- On Gaana.com

MANADHIL AMAIDHI VENDUM
A guided meditation series in Tamil, to make you feel at peace. The show focuses on self love and positivity which can be achieved through a mindful meditation exercise. Every episode offers a dedicated meditation.
- On Gaana.com

SHADOW
It's a popular crime thriller novel which is a detective centric story written by popular telugu writer Madhu Babu. Shadow is also expected to be made as a feature film in telugu soon.
- On Gaana.com

KADAL PURA
Kadal pura is a popular novel written by ace tamil writer Sandilyan who is known for writing stories by blending historical events. This audio drama offers the wholesome experience of feeling the richness of the story and characters involved.
- On Gaana.com

Courtesy: Gaana.com

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

SIMHADRI
Simhadri, the son of a farmer, gets his sister Nandhini married to a rich man's son. However, she is mistreated by her in-laws after the marriage and Simhadri decides to help her
- Cast: Duniya Vijay, Suchendra Prasad

SAMHAARA
After Sri, a chef who is a visually-impaired, meets with an accident, the doctors manage to restore his vision. When he learns that his former lover is in trouble, he decides to help her.
- Cast: Chiranjeevi Sarja, Kavya Shetty, Haripriya

I LOVE YOU
Santosh, a carefree youth, parts ways with his lover, Dharmika, during his college days. Years later, after his marriage to Gowri, he runs into her, which leaves him in a dilemma.
- Cast: Upendra, Rachita Ram

AYOGYA
Siddhe Gowda, an unemployed man, decides to run against Bachche Gowda, the village head, in the local election. He also begins to fall in love with Nandini, the daughter of a marriage broker.
- Cast: Satish Ninasam, Rachita Ram

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 THE INTERGENERATIONAL WISDOM WOVEN INTO INDIGENOUS STORIES BY TAI SIMPSON
Community organiser and activist Tai Simpson advocates for a return to the "old ways" guided by indigenous wisdom that emphasise balance, community and the importance of intergenerational storytelling in order to protect what's sacred.

2 "LET THE PAINT DRY" — A LESSON IN CREATIVITY, CAREER AND PATIENCE BY DANIEL J WATTS
Multidisciplinary artist Daniel J. Watts shares a personal perspective on reframing this moment of global stasis as an opportunity to reset and reflect on the potential of what comes after.

3 HOW TO TALK ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE SO PEOPLE ACTUALLY CARE BY JOHN MARSHALL
In this actionable talk, communications strategist John Marshall explains why we need to rethink how we talk about climate change — and offers small but mighty language adjustments to get people to more intuitively understand and care about this existential threat.

4 HOW YOUR MEMORY WORKS — AND WHY FORGETTING IS TOTALLY OK BY LISA GENOVA
Have you ever misplaced something you were just holding? Completely blanked on a famous actor's name? Walked into a room and forgot why? Neuroscientist Lisa Genova digs into two types of memory failures we regularly experience and reassures us that forgetting is normal.

5 EARTH'S ORIGINAL INHABITANTS — AND THEIR ROLE IN COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE BY STEVEN ALLISON
Every environment on the planet has a microbiome that keeps it healthy and balanced. Ecologist Steven Allison explores how these extraordinarily adaptable, diverse collections of microorganisms could help solve big global problems like climate change and food insecurity and makes the case for getting to know Earth's original inhabitants.

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

UPPENA (Telugu)
The plot revolves around the romantic love journey of two youngsters. Their smooth love story gets affected due to the situation and things take a dangerous turn. Can they stay safe and be helpful to each other in risky situations?
Cast: Panja Vaisshnav Tej, Krithi Shetty, Vijay Sethupathi
Watch on: Netflix

WILD DOG (Telugu)
A dramatic presentation of the August 2007 Hyderabad bombings and its investigations told through NIA point of view.
Cast: Nagarjuna Akkineni, Kelly Dorji, Avijit Dutt
Watch on: Netflix

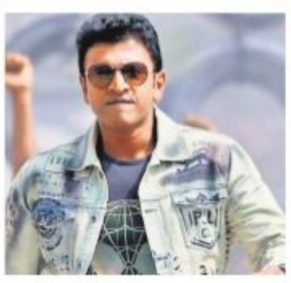
MUMBAI SAGA (Hindi)
The plot of the movie is set in the era of the 80s and 90s which were marked as a transformed period of Mumbai.
Cast: John Abraham, Emraan Hashmi, Mahesh Manjrekar
Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

ROBERRT (Kannada)
Raghava lives in Lucknow with his son Arjun and is the head cook in a Brahmin's catering unit. He leads a peaceful existence, wanting the best for his son. All seems to go well, until some skeletons come tumbling out of his closet and he is forced to take on his original avatar.
Cast: Darshan, Asha Bhatt
Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

DEAR DAD (Hindi)
Dear Dad is a bittersweet coming of age story; involving a father-son duo of 14-year-old Shivam, and his 45-year-old dad Nitin Swaminathan.
Cast: Arvind Swamy, Ekavali Khanna, Himanshu Sharma
Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

SITA ON THE ROAD (Telugu)
The movie is about five women coming from different social environments and the challenges they face — in urban and rural settings.
Cast: Kalpika Ganesh, Gayathri Gupta, Khatera Hakimi
Watch on: Zee 5



YUVARATHNAA (Kannada)
A reputed college that is now on the verge of closing due to the privatisation of the education system and political reasons. The college principal fights against privatisation and the protagonist supports his vision.
Cast: Puneeth Rajkumar, Sayyeshaa Saigal, Sonu Gowda
Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

ENGLISH

LOVE, DEATH & ROBOTS (Series)
The animated anthology series includes tales that explore alternate histories, life for robots in a post-apocalyptic city and a plot for world domination by super-intelligent yogurt, spanning various genres.
Cast: Scott Whyte, Nolan North, Matthew Yang King
Watch on: Netflix

THE NEWSROOM (Series)
A newsroom undergoes some changes in its workings and morals as a new team is brought in, bringing unexpected results for its existing news anchor.
Cast: Jeff Daniels, Emily Mortimer, John Gallagher Jr
Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar

CHERNOBYL (Series)
In April 1986, an explosion at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics becomes one of the world's worst man-made catastrophes.
Cast: Jessie Buckley, Jared Harris, Stellan Skarsgård
Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

SPLITTING UP TOGETHER (Series)
The story of a couple whose marriage is reignited by their divorce.
Cast: Jenna Fischer, Oliver Hudson, Olivia Keville
Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

SUBSCRIPTION
Prime Video: ₹ 129 per month
Disney+Hotstar: ₹ 399 per year
Netflix: ₹ 199 per month

WAITING TO EXHALE

RUBINATIONS
RUBI CHAKRAVARTI
Writer, actor and funny girl

As I reluctantly open my eyes in the mornings, I take an almost involuntary deep breath as my chest constricts and I struggle to gulp in a breath of fresh air. I suddenly realise I don't have to struggle to breathe... the trees outside have converted the air that surround us into oxygen, and we are the privileged ones who get it free and unhindered. Many people in my beloved city and country are not as lucky as their lungs fill with the acrid smoke from burning pyres of their loved ones. Most of us see, feel and experience this abject horror and genocide of our people, but still, some amongst us like to sprout 'righteous' nonsense sitting safely behind their computer screens. It is so much safer to see proof and still dismiss it as propaganda to defame our leaders, rather than come face to face with the undiluted horror and the bitter truth. I used to despair for these 'despots' but I don't anymore as these nightmarish times have brought forth the best in people. For all the ruthless and brainless 'twitterati,' God-men and uber-riche, who ask you to prove your credentials and whose solution to any problem is to fly away on their jet-planes, and ruthlessly manipulate the narrative, making everything into a conspiracy theory, masterfully influencing the gullible that 'awl is well'... We say enough!

But out there, are also a sea of people like us. who work, deliver on promises, make magic happen and who care.

I doubt when a certain statesman said we needed to be 'self-reliant,' he never imagined the complete paradigm shift that would happen with the youngsters of this country. For one I think the 'statesman' liked the sound of the word, and it was an easy way of saying 'we are busy doing other things (read preparing for 'victories') with the resources meant to be spent on you, and as usual you guys fend for yourselves'.

Young adults, your children and mine, their friends and their circle of influence have all been roped into a massive movement of taking charge and shamelessly leveraging contacts. They are giving information, verifying it, organising drives to ferry people to hospitals, arranging for food, medicines and even oxygen which is under the government preview. They are slowly but surely inspiring others, and forming a critical mass of humans helping humans, where ultimately they will become 'self-sufficient' or 'atmanirbhar'.They are done with spewing anger at the failure of the state and its leaders and have concentrated their energies into mobilising into a movement so strong that all the 'men in white' better beat a hasty retreat with their despicable intentions. They can try all they want to throw their 'piss-parties' with their motley crew of Harley driving God-men, conning the gullible with their divisional rhetoric, but in the end 'humanity' shall win. No more will the true Indian be forced to prove their credentials to 'righteous' bullies and charlatans.

Closer home, I try not to miss my children who I have not set eyes on or enveloped in arms for a long while. But every time I write or talk to them I hum those lines from the musical, *Fiddler on the Roof*, "*Is this the little girl I carried, is this the little boy at play, I don't remember growing older, when did they?*" Just yesterday when I reiterated how much I miss them my son sent me a note, 'We isolate now. So when we gather again, no one is missing'

If we survive this, I hope, we shall remember, we didn't fight for land, weapons, houses or jewellery. We didn't fight for concert tickets, fancy destinations, religion or politics. We didn't fight for difference of opinions, petty or major squabbles.

When all this is over remember, we fought for air! Sad! So very sad.

Iftar get-togethers may not be possible this year but here are some simple snack ideas, tried and tested by city home chefs, that you can break your fast with

FEAST AFTER FAST

RESHMI MALAI TIKKA

Ingredients

- Boneless chicken (cut into 2" tikka pieces) - 500 gm

For marinade 1*

- Ginger garlic paste - 3 tsp
- Salt - as per taste
- Lemon juice - 2 tsp

For marinade 2*

- Hung curd - 4 tbsp
- Processed cheese - 4 tbsp
- Fresh cream - 5 - 6 tbsp
- Green chilies crushed - 2 tsp
- White pepper - 1/2 tsp
- Garam masala - 1/2 tsp
- Salt - 1/4 tsp
- Green cardamom powder - 1/2 tsp
- Butter for basting - 4 tbsp

Method

- To prepare hung curd, strain water from the curd using a cloth or strainer
- Wash and pat dry the chicken cubes
- For the first marinade, add all ingredients, mix well and set aside for 30 minutes
- For the second marinade, add all the ingredients
- Whisk everything together and then add marinated chicken pieces. Mix well
- Set aside to marinate for 3-4 hours in the refrigerator
- Grill well and bast with melted butter
- Sprinkle with chaat masala and serve hot

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GARLIC CHICKEN

Ingredients

- Chicken - 500 gm
- Salt and pepper - as per taste
- Cornflour - 1 tbsp
- Unsalted butter - 50 gm
- Garlic cloves (minced) - handful
- Vinegar - 1.5 tbsp
- Soy sauce - 2 tbsp
- Red chili sauce - 2 tbsp
- Tomato sauce - 2 tbsp
- Spring onion - Handful

For cheese sauce

- Butter - 2 tbsp
- All purpose flour - 1/4 cup
- Milk - 2 cups
- Shredded cheese - 2 cups

Method

- For cheese sauce: Melt the butter in a saucepan, add flour and whisk. Let it cook on medium heat for 60-90 seconds. Pour one cup of milk and whisk. Cool until thickened. Then add the remaining cup of milk and whisk well. Cook on medium heat, stirring often, until the mixture has thickened. Stir in the shredded cheese until melted.
- Marinate chicken with salt, pepper, cornflour, soya sauce, vinegar and red chicken colour. Shallow fry.
- In a pan, add butter and minced garlic. Add the chicken and toss.
- Add the sauces. Cook it on low flame for about 15 minutes.
- Add spring onion and drizzle cheese sauce.

- Zoharian Naveed, (@infusionbyzoharian on Instagram)

POTATO CHEESE SHOTS

Ingredients

- Boiled potatoes - 3
- Onion - 1/4 cup
- Green capsicum - 1/4 cup
- Fresh coriander - 2 tbsp
- Chilies - 1 tsp
- Mixed herbs - 1 tsp
- Crushed black pepper - 1/2 tsp
- Mozzarella cheese - 1/2 cup
- Bread crumbs - 1 cup
- Cornflour - 2 tbsp
- Maida/flour - 2 tbsp
- Oil - for frying
- Salt - as per taste

Method

- In a large bowl, mash the potatoes well with a masher
- Add the chopped vegetables
- Add dry spices, grated cheese and mix well
- Take a tablespoon of the potato cheese ball mixture in your palm and shape it into a ball. Use your thumb give an impression in the centre and insert the mozzarella cheese cube. Cover the cheese cube properly and give it a round shape
- In a bowl, add corn flour, refined flour and water. Mix well until medium consistency is reached
- Coat the cheese balls in bread crumbs and roll them in the above made mixture. Now roll them in bread crumbs again
- Let them refrigerate for 10 minutes
- In a pan, add oil over medium flame. Once it becomes hot, add the cheese balls. Fry them for 3-4 minutes on medium flame till they get a golden crust
- Serve immediately with ketchup or garlic sauce

- Iffath Irfan (@Justbaked6 on Instagram)

GULAB JAMOON

Ingredients

- Khova or mawa - 200 gm
- All-purpose flour - 4 tbsp
- Fine sooji - 2 tbsp
- Green cardamom, powdered - 1/4 tsp
- Milk - as much needed
- Baking powder - 1/4 tsp
- Oil for deep frying - as required

For sugar syrup

- Sugar - 250 gm
- Water - 1 cup
- Rose water - 1 tbsp

Method

- Mash the mawa in a bowl, ensuring no lumps
- Add sooji, maida, baking powder and cardamom powder Mix well. Add milk and make a dough. If the mixture appears dry, add a few teaspoons of milk
- Make small balls from the dough. Cover and keep aside
- For sugar syrup: Dissolve sugar in water. Heat the sugar solution till it becomes sticky. Turn off the flame before the syrup reaches one-thread consistency. Add rose water, stir and keep aside.
- Meanwhile, while the sugar syrup is cooking, heat oil till its medium hot. Lower the flame and wait for a minute. Then gently place the dough balls in the oil till they turn brown
- Place the hot fried dough balls in the sugar syrup. Let it rest for 30 minutes. Serve gulab jamun warm or at room temperature. You can also serve them cold. Garnish with rose petals or almond slivers

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IN HIGH (AND SWEET) SPIRITS

Caramel Martini

JANIN KANNOTH
Resident mixologist and beverage manager at URU Brewpark

ONE often has to decide whether or not to serve dessert after dinner. On one hand, it's an essential part of a meal. On the other, one may have to contend with guests not eating sweets at all, or, in any case, not indulging themselves. That's where dessert cocktails prove to be an exciting alternative.

Dessert cocktails, like the name suggests, are a delicious combination of a dessert and a cocktail. It can be consumed as a post-meal drink, as a dessert, or a substitute for a nightcap. With two or three options on offer, one can satisfy varied tastes. These cocktails have the basic elements of dessert, generally don't have a citrus base, and are a great way to satisfy your sweet tooth. It would usually be a deconstructed dessert with the addition of a compatible alcohol.

Dessert cocktails are somewhat different from after-dinner cocktails and digestives. They're designed to be a sweet end to a savoury meal. In other words, they can be considered to be bridging the gap between bartenders and pastry chefs. The best thing about dessert cocktails? There are no rules, one can experiment as much as they want since the end result is meant to be sweet, and the ingredients can be anything from caramel and cinnamon to ice cream and chocolate. One can also use sweet liqueurs like Irish cream. And of course, fruits like cherries and apricots fit the bill too.

TRY IT OUT

So, where should one start with dessert cocktails? Maybe with a simple White Russian Ice Cream Float, which consists of coffee liqueur, vodka and ice cream. You could also try a Chocolate Martini, which has vodka, crème de cacao or chocolate liqueur, and chocolate garnish. The Grasshopper is famous too and features creme de menthe, creme de cacao, and cream or ice cream.

NUGGETS

FINE-DINING DISHES DELIVERED TO DOORSTEP

JW Marriott Hotel Bengaluru is now delivering dishes to your doorstep. Marriott on Wheels, a delivery platform by Marriott International, offers food delivery across the city of Bengaluru by the hotel. The menu includes Afghani Murgh, Kolkata Style Kathi Rolls, Dal Makhani, Shahi Gosht Biryani, Nashila Dhungar Laal Maas, Shahi Tukda and Opera Pastry. The hotel is also offering a Sunday brunch menu with multi-cuisine spread. The delivery is by Marriott on Wheels, Swiggy and Zomato. For details, contact 91 80 67189999.

BENTO BOXES FOR TAKEAWAY

Four Seasons has devised a takeaway system through bento boxes. These are available in varied options like Asian, Western and Indian delicacies. They comprise appetizers (any 2), main (any 1), rice (any 1), Indian breads (any 2) and dessert (any 1) in the Indian bento box or salad (any 1), soup (any 1), pasta (any 1), side (any 1), main (any 1) and dessert (any 1) in the Western bento box. They are priced at ₹2,600 plus taxes for two. Call 7619146004 to place an order.

VIRTUAL CHOCOLATE TASTING EXPERIENCE TO BE HELD ONLINE

Check out this virtual workshop, which is taking place in collaboration with Kocoa Trait and its founder Nitin Chordia. Each participant will be sent a chocolate tasting pack and they will get to learn about the flavour fundamentals of tasting chocolate like a professional. It will take place on May 16 at 3pm. For more details, check Insider.in

S MAHENDAR TO DIRECT RAVICHANDRAN IN FILM ON VILLAGE-BASED SUBJECT

The duo is collaborating for the first time in this film, for which the actor-director has locked the deal

Ravichandran

A SHARADHAA

SMAHENDAR will direct Ravichandran, in a film that is focused on a village-based story. The director of films like *Karpoorada Gombe, Snehaloka, Vallee*, and *Ninagagi*, will be collaborating for the first time with the Crazy Star. While there have been speculations that the director has been preparing for this project for a while, it was confirmed to *CE* on Friday by the director himself. "Yes, Ravichandran and I will be associating for a project, and we have locked the script," he says. The director mentioned that they were in the process of making an official announcement when the lockdown was announced. "We have been working on the project and we were finalising the technical team and cast. We were to start shooting, however, the lockdown and pandemic have now pushed the plan," says Mahendar, adding that the relevant details of the film will be announced when the project goes on floors.

While the director-actor is teaming up for the first time, it is the backdrop of a village that the story is set against, that makes this combination more interesting. For fans of Ravichandran, who have loved watching films like *Halli Mestru,* Annayya, *Ramachaari,* to name a few, this will be yet another offering from the Crazy Star. Currently, Ravichandran has completed the shooting of B M Giriraj's *Kannadiga*. The writer-actor-director is also getting ready to bring out his next film *Ravi Bopanna* to theatres. He also has *Drishya 2,* which they plan to take on floors when the government permits shooting. Meanwhile, director Mahendar has completed shooting for *Pampa* (*Panchahalli Parashivamurthy*), which is ready for release. But all plans depend on the pandemic.

> We have been working on the project and we were finalising the technical team and cast. We were to start shooting, however, the lockdown and pandemic have now pushed the plan
>
> S Mahendar, director

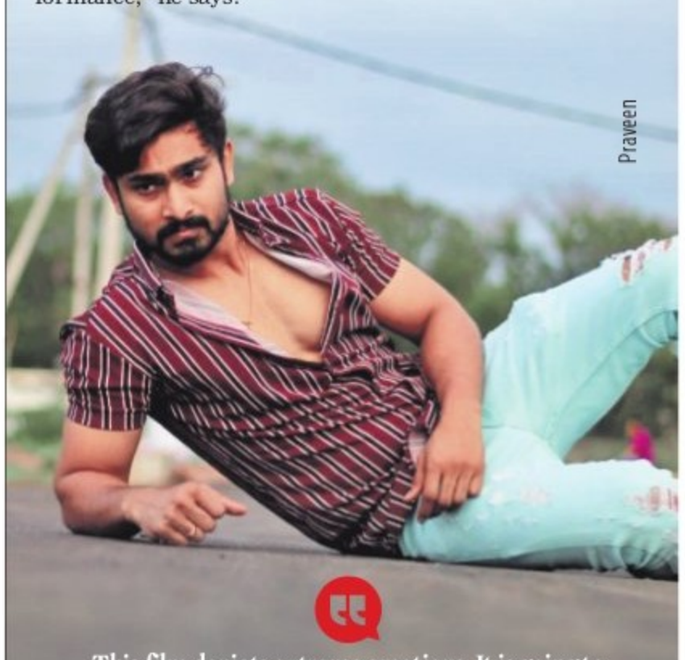
Shashank
introduces new talent Praveen in this intense love story

CE FEATURES

Director Shashank, who is known to introduce fresh faces like Radhika Pandit to the Kannada film industry, is launching yet another new talent. Praveen, a doctor by profession, will be making his tinsel town debut in Shashank's next directorial venture. The director has pushed his project with Upendra, and now his entire focus will be on this film with the newcomer. "I enjoyed working with fresh talent, which I experienced through *Moggina Manasu*. After that film I was working mostly with established actors. Once again, a script has brought me back to working with all newcomers, which is a dream come true," says Shashank.

The director pushed the project with Uppi sensing the rise in Covid cases, and has advanced this project with the newcomer. Shashank says he saw a potential in Praveen, and chose to launch him. "He's a doctor who is currently doing his internship. He has a passion towards cinema, and is trained in acting." Shashank, who is yet to title his film, has come up with an intense love story. "This film depicts extreme emotions. It is going to be my style of a film —very realistic. However, it is not based on any true incident. I am done with the screenplay and I am currently penning the dialogues, which I will plan to complete before the lockdown," says Shashank.

The director has finalised music director Arjun Janya, and is in the process of finalising the female lead. "I am scouting for a fresh face, specifically looking for a heroine, who is extremely talented and can give a high-voltage performance," he says.


Praveen

> This film depicts extreme emotions. It is going to be my style of a film —very realistic. However, it is not based on any true incident. — Shashank, director

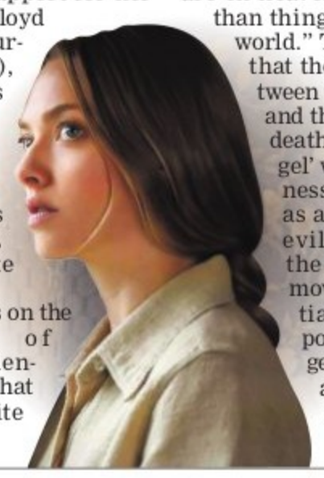
INTERESTING, BUT NOT IMPRESSIVE

BHUVANESH CHANDAR

If there's one thing that Netflix's *Things Heard & Seen* shows, it is that the exploration in the horror genre is far from over. Based on the Elizabeth Brundage novel 'All Things Cease to Appear', the film follows George Claire (James Norton), Catherina Claire (Amanda Seyfried) and their little girl Franny Claire (Ana Sophia Heger), who live a comfortable life in New York. Soon, George announces that he's landed a job as a professor in Saginaw University, a small private college at an upstate place called Chosen. They move into a big house at Chosen that looks extremely creepy and is a hundred years old at least. It's the classic horror movie set-up. Cathy and Franny begin to experience an unnatural presence, and George is the typical guy in the horror movie who says, "You are crazy. The house is perfect."

Despite such a tried-and-tested setting, Things Heard & Seen slowly shows signs that it may not be as clichéd as it seems. Cathy realises that the house has seen some very disturbing things and that a kind spirit is trying to protect her. A horror movie with a good ghost? The movie also drops hints to show that George may not be the person we think he is. Eventually, his darker sides unravel and in quite a brilliant fashion (all credits to the good writing).

Cathy, being the interesting character she is (she calls herself "a conflicted Catholic girl at heart who is dutifully going through the motions") knows that something's not right with George. But that the priority is the haunted house. She gets much-needed support for her theories from Floyd DeBeers (F Murray Abraham), her husband's boss. We eventually realise that the house is haunted by an evil spirit as well. From here, things get quite interesting.



The film leans on the philosophy of Emanuel Swedenborg – a name that is dropped quite often. In fact, the film starts with a quote of his that goes, "This I can declare: things that are in heaven are more real than things that are in the world." The movie states that there's a portal between the human world and the worlds beyond death. A 'guardian angel' will use the goodness within a human as a portal, while an evil spirit will use the lack of it. The movie also substantiates the quote by portraying an angelic spirit as real, and a character of the real world as an evil fraudster.

THINGS HEARD & SEEN
Director: Shari Springer Berman, Robert Pulcini
Cast: Amanda Seyfried, James Norton, Natalia Dyer, F Murray Abraham
Streaming on: Netflix

The film depicts this theme quite beautifully, and quite artistically. When DeBeers welcomes George at Saginaw, he gifts him a book of Swedenborg, Heaven and the World of Spirits and Hell. The cover art of which is a painting by 19th-century painter George Inness called 'The Valley of Shadow of Death', which, as per DeBeers, shows the departure of a soul to heaven.

Macroscopically, the film is a twisted depiction of two painters in their extremes – Thomas Cole and George Inness. Cole and Inness were both landscape painters and the founders of the Hudson River School art movement. In particular, Cole's *The Voyage of Life* (the last in his *The Voyage of Life series*) and Inness' The Valley of Shadow of Death. These are not just names of paintings dropped, but the climax of the film brings these two paintings – which are similar in their subject and theme – together. George rows his boat on the Hudson, desperate for 'escape'. However, instead of the cross in Inness' painting, an upside-down cross appears in the sky – a symbol of evil. The sky is blood red, like in Cole's painting, which very much mirrors his quote, "Sky is the soul of all scenery." In a way, it is the spirit of art itself that haunts George, for his treachery to the subject he claims to hold so dearly.

RATING 2.5/5

A look at Elizabeth Brundage's novel and into the lives of Thomas Cole and George Inness might reveal why two characters in the film are also named Cole and George.

Things Heard & Seen might at first look like The Shining meeting The Conjuring, however, it does have depth. Moreover, the performances and music are excellent. Given that it is based on a book, the writers may have been creatively restrained to an extent, but the problem lies with the screenplay itself. It builds up to extremely obvious reveals and is filled with cliché horror tropes.

Things Heard & Seen may not fulfil the 'scary' expectations of a horror film, but on closer look, it seems like it wasn't supposed to. Why should all horror films have jump scares, gnarly demons and eerie VFX ghosts?

CE FEATURES

TONI COLLETTE TO HEADLINE HBO MAX'S *THE STAIRCASE*

Toni Collette is all set to star alongside Colin Firth in HBO Max's upcoming limited series *The Staircase*.

According to Variety, the eight-episode series is based on the docuseries of the same name as well as various books and reports about the case of Michael Peterson (Firth), who was accused of murdering his wife, Kathleen (Collette), in 2001. Though Michael claimed that she died after falling down the stairs at their home, the police suspected that he bludgeoned her to death and staged the scene to look like an accident.

The Staircase is written and executively produced by showrunners Antonio Campos and Maggie Cohn. Campos will also direct six of the eight episodes. The series is a co-production between HBO Max and Annapurna Television.

Collette is known for films such as *The Sixth Sense, Knives Out, Hereditary, Little Miss Sunshine* and so on. In TV, she recently appeared in Netflix's *Unbelievable* and will star in the streamer's upcoming drama *Pieces of Her*. Collette's latest film, *Stowaway,* a space drama co-starring Anna Kendrick, is currently streaming on Netflix.

SHILAJIT MITRA

A stunning meditation on artistic despair

THE DISCIPLE
Cast: Aditya Modak, Dr. Arun Dravid
Director: Chaitanya Tamhane
Streaming on: Netflix

IN Court, first-time director Chaitanya Tamhane painted a stark (and savagely funny) portrait of the Indian judicial system. The 2015 Marathi-language film relied on a simple juxtaposition: the gap between exalted legal ideals and their actual process. A similar tug-of-war invigorates *The Disciple,* Chaitanya's second feature, about a young classical singer named Sharad (Aditya Modak). In the opening scene, the camera closes in on a musical performance in a large hall. We're introduced to Sharad's father, a veteran vocalist and teacher, and then, as the frame tightens up, to Sharad himself.

A second-generation classical performer in Mumbai, Sharad has grown—though hardly blossomed—in his father's shadow. There are tender flashbacks into their past, which reveal a broken family and a missed childhood. Sharad bears this resentment quietly but firmly—it doesn't take long for him to say, "Don't compare me with my father. If I fail, I won't go around blaming the world." Still, he cares for him all the same, tending to his failing health and backing him up with a large sitar.

The film, which is also written and edited by Chaitanya, follows Sharad's disillusionment over a long period of time, from youth to middle age. These sections are tied together by a motif: Sharad listening to lecture recordings of Maai, a reclusive, enigmatic maestro who trained his father. In her peaceful voice, she reveals to him the core tenets of classical singing—sacrifice, asceticism, pain. Sharad clings to this bushido-like code, but can barely keep up. Like any ordinary artist, he frets about the niceties of performance, experiences jealousy and hurt, and, in one telling scene, even lies to a friend.

Just what, exactly, is he missing out? Time and again, Sharad is accused of impatience, of a certain 'restlessness' in his mind. This puts him at odds with Chaitanya's filmmaking. The director is all poise and perseverance, furnishing each scene with an uncommon depth. He has a distinct way of filming wide spaces—usually with static shots from a distance (the cinematography is by Michał Soboci ski). His use of editing is near imperceptible but can deal great damage. It's hard not to crack up when Sharad watches, on TV, a woman at a reality show contest. She ends up wooing the judges, and the scene abruptly cuts to Sharad in a hall.

RATING 4/5

Like Court, *The Disciple* immerses us in its chosen milieu. Chaitanya's research is exhaustive—a simple conversation on a train yields a reference to the Dover Lane Music Conference in Kolkata. Sharad's father is played by Dr Arun Dravid, a real-life classical singer, expert and lecturer. There's much devotion to the greats, but their life isn't rarefied. We see an ancient art form eroding away—its practitioners dependent on a few wealthy sponsors here and there. But The Disciple isn't a sympathetic film; it points up the stubbornness and absurdity of these artists as much as the commercialism surrounding them.

Debutant Aditya is a classical singer too, though a more accomplished one than Sharad. Winningly, he brings a striking authenticity to the part. There's a memorable scene where a music critic spills scandalous gossip about the masters of the craft. Sharad listens intently, even egging the man on to speak. But then a line is crossed, and Sharad assaults him with a glass of water. It's a funnily harrowing scene, all his years of indoctrination and rage coming out in a splash.

The Disciple stands out in a small crowd of recent Indian films about music. Too many of them come ringed with hope, the artist always parlaying his creative frustrations into something worthwhile. Sharad's journey follows a simple track: he goes from hapless student to quiet custodian. Only once does he break character, slipping away to play cricket at a field. It feels like a mercy.